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A history of education in Suffolk and Nansemond County, Virginia

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A HISTORY OF EDUCATION IN SUFFOLK
AND NANSEMOND COUNTY, VIRGINIA

A Thesis
Presented to the Graduate Faculty
of the University of Richmond

In Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree
Master of Science in Education

by
Robert Bell Moore
June 10, 1957

APPROVAL SHEET

The Undersigned, appointed by the Chairman of the
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Date: May 23, 1957

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The purpose of this thesis is not to express opinions or to give interpretations of the material, but it is to give a factual presentation within the limits of the available material.

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PART ONE

CHAPTER I

HISTORY OF SUFFOLK AND NANSEMOND COUNTY, VIRGINIA

Nansemond County, Virginia, with a present population of about 26,000, and Suffolk, Virginia, which is the county seat, with its own population of about 13,000, are located in the extreme southeastern part of Virginia. Nansemond County, strategically situated in the farming region of Tidewater Virginia, has within its bounds the Great Dismal Swamp, which, for the most part is still a primitive forest surrounded by a modern industrial and farming world; also the city of Suffolk is known the world over, because it is the heart of the peanut industry of this nation. The Nansemond River winds its way through the county past Suffolk and runs into the great port of Hampton Roads.

The history of Nansemond County before the founding of Suffolk is not too unlike that of any other county of Tidewater Virginia. This county was first visited by John Smith and his exploring party in 1608, and they found living here a powerful tribe of Indians called the Nansemonds.¹

¹W. E. MacClenny, An Outline History of Nansemond County, Virginia, p. 2.

This tribe consisted of some 200 warriors and had about 1,000 acres of cleared land for farming.² Later that year Captain John Martin with about 120 colonists made an unsuccessful attempt at colonization here.³

The first successful settlement of Nansemond County occurred in 1618 by Edward Waters.⁴ He was well-established when the Great Massacre of 1622 took place, and he and his people were taken prisoners. They escaped, however, and returned to Jamestown. It was shortly after this that the Governor ordered an attack on the Nansemond Indians, and as a result these Indians were practically obliterated.⁵

In 1634 the Colony of Virginia was made into shires, and the part we know today as Nansemond was called Warrosquyoake, afterwards Isle of Wight.⁶ In 1639 the Warrosquyoake shire was divided into counties, one part being named Upper Norfolk but being changed in 1645-46 to Nansimum which was also written Nandsamond, Nanzemund, Nansemum, and Nandsamund until the present form of Nansemond was accepted as correct.⁷

²Nansemond County, a brochure of the Chamber of Commerce.

³Ibid. ⁴Ibid. ⁵Ibid.

⁶Edward Pollock, Sketch Book of Suffolk, Virginia--Its People and Trade, p. 15.

⁷Ibid., p. 18.

The earliest permanent settlers of the County all had rather large plantations, such as James Knott who had 2,700 acres, and Major-General Richard Bennett who had 2,000 acres.⁸ Immigrants flowed into this county from 1655 to the end of the century, and by the early 1700's all of Nansemond County had been patented by these colonists.⁹

With the beginning of the 18th century Nansemond had become one of the important counties of the colony. Some of early Virginia's most noted men coming from Nansemond County were Major-General Richard Bennett who served as governor, Edward Major who was speaker of the House of Burgesses in 1652, Thomas Dew who was speaker in 1653, Thomas Godwin who was speaker in 1676, and Thomas Milner who was speaker from 1691-93.¹⁰ The following were on the Governor's Council: Richard Bennett (1639), William Bernard (1641), Thomas Dew (1655), John Cartier (1657-58), Edward Carter (1659), and Colonel John Leon.¹¹ There is other evidence that Nansemond County was growing, for several settlements were taking place in the county. A

⁸Joseph B. Dunn, History of Nansemond County, Virginia, p. 19

⁹MacClenny, op. cit., p. 6.

¹⁰Ibid. p. 6

¹¹Ibid.

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⁸Joseph B. Dunn, History of Nansemond County, Virginia, p. 19.

⁹MacClenny, op. cit., p. 6.

¹⁰Ibid., p. 6.

¹¹Ibid.

County Town was ordered established in 1680, but it was not until 1691 that it was established; in 1705 Nansemond Town was established on the Nansemond River from which a ferry ran to Hampton.¹² There were villages at Somerton (Saumertown or Summertown), Chuckatuck and South Quay. Tobacco was the chief product for export, and it continued to be so for many years.¹³

In 1728 a commission, headed by Colonel William Byrd, was set up to establish a dividing line between North Carolina and Virginia. In surveying the boundary of Nansemond County and North Carolina Colonel Byrd wrote in his Westover Manuscripts that the commission was entertained in true Virginia hospitality by Colonel Andrew Meade of this county, and that they "passed no less than two Quaker Meeting Houses"; he further wrote "That persuasion prevails much in the lower end of Nansemond County for want of ministers to pilot the people a decenter way to Heaven".¹⁴

The early part of the 18th century was not too eventful in Nansemond's history, even though the people were assuming a regular colonial life and some warehouses were being built. It was at one of the warehouses,

¹²Ibid., pp. 7 and 8. ¹³Ibid., p. 8.

¹⁴Pollock, op. cit., p. 22.

Constance's Warehouse, that in 1742 the town of Suffolk was established by an act of the General Assembly.

In 1785 sixteen acres of land at the head of Suffolk were added to this new town in Nansemond County.¹⁵

In January, 1808, the town was more fully incorporated, and a Board of Trustees, having certain powers and duties, was authorized to be appointed.¹⁶

On April 1, 1858, an act was passed for the town of Suffolk authorizing the election of a Mayor and Council who were vested with "all the usual powers, rights, and privileges under the Code of Virginia".¹⁷ A new charter was given to the Town in March, 1872, enlarging the boundaries and a Town Sergeant, Clerk, Assessor, Treasurer, Overseer of the Poor, and Street Commissioner were to be elected. Suffolk again enlarged its boundaries in 1879.¹⁸

On October 1, 1910, Suffolk was established as a city of the Second Class and in 1944 Suffolk became a city of the First Class, with a population of 10,271;¹⁹ thus it assumed its place among the leading communities in the state. Today Suffolk and Nansemond County are progressive

¹⁵Suffolk News Herald, October 27, 1942.

¹⁶Ibid. ¹⁷Pollock, op. cit., p. 40.

¹⁸Ibid., p. 26.

¹⁹A Hornbook of Virginia History, p. 32.

localities with an eye to the future, and the people take pride in the fact that their past is an illustrious heritage of which everyone of the citizenry can be justly proud.

War History of Suffolk and Nansemond County.

Suffolk and Nansemond County have taken an active part in every conflict in which our country has been engaged. Prior to the Revolutionary War a committee of Safety, whose duty it was to investigate people who seemed to be sympathizing with or aiding the British, was formed by the citizenry. On July 10, 1775, the first meeting was held, and on November 22, 1775, the final meeting was held.²⁰ Nansemond's militia of 644 men, plus about 150 other men, represented the county throughout the war years; Suffolk became an army depot where large quantities of provisions were stored; shipyards were built around Suffolk and several ships, which helped the American cause greatly, were constructed; the storehouses and shipyards in the county, proving to be a thorn in the side of the British, were destroyed, and the Town of Suffolk was almost burned to the ground on May 13, 1779, by troops under General Matthews.²¹ Benedict Arnold crossed the county in 1781 on his way from

²⁰Dunn, op. cit., p. 12.

²¹MacClenny, op. cit., p. 12.

Richmond to Norfolk; Lord Cornwallis led his army through the county in 1781 on his way to Portsmouth just a few weeks before final surrender. At the final surrender Nansemond's militia was still active and serving valiantly.²² It was with rejoicing that these soldiers returned to their homes to live in peace in a free country.

In the War of 1812 the Nansemond militia was out in full force, but they saw no action, for the Virginia Militia kept the British out of the county entirely. It was during this war that the port of South Quay in Nansemond County became and remained an important trading post, for much foreign trade was carried on from its wharves.²³

In the War with Mexico Nansemond County and Suffolk did not take an active part, for not more than ten men volunteered from this area of Virginia.²⁴

During the War between the States Suffolk and Nansemond County sent about 1,500 men to the Confederate army and navy, some of its sailors being on the Virginia (or Merrimac) in the battle in Hampton Roads.²⁵ There was never any active fighting around Suffolk, even though a great many troops from both the Northern and Southern

²²Ibid., p. 13. ²³Ibid., p. 15.

²⁴Ibid., p. 16. ²⁵Ibid., p. 17.

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²²Ibid., p. 13. ²³Ibid., p. 15.

²⁴Ibid., p. 16. ²⁵Ibid., p. 17.

armies were quartered in the county and in Suffolk. Until May, 1862, Suffolk was occupied by Confederate troops, but after the fall of Norfolk to Union forces, Suffolk was evacuated and taken over by Northern forces. Suffolk never again saw the flag of the Confederacy for Northern forces kept the town in check throughout the war years. During what was known as the "Siege of Suffolk", Federal troops--as many as 60,000 at a time--encamped around Suffolk with the one purpose of intimidating the enemy by manifesting a threatening attitude toward the Confederate forces. This feint was successful since no skirmish ever took place. Much suffering occurred, but the people of Suffolk and Nansemond survived the war years and valiantly did they endure their losses.²⁶ The story of the people of Suffolk and Nansemond County after the War was the same throughout the South, but they, like the rest of the South, weathered the storm because of their spirit and determination, and slowly the people in this region of the Old Dominion got back on their feet and took their places as part of the United States.

Four times after the foregoing wars did Suffolk and Nansemond County send forth their men to war. In the

²⁶Pollock, op. cit., pp. 83-86.

Spanish-American War two companies of men were sent; in World War I the county and city sent 2,151 men of whom forty-one never returned;²⁷ and again in World War II and the Korean Conflict Suffolk and Nansemond County sent forth their men to fight to preserve our democracy.

By no means is the part that this county and city played in every war unique, but it is significant in that the men fought valiantly to uphold the ideals for which they stood.

The Burnings of Suffolk.

Suffolk has been plagued by fires throughout the years. In every instance, practically the entire town has been leveled.

Sir Henry Clinton, wishing to humble the American people during the Revolutionary War, succeeded in outmaneuvering the American militia in Nansemond County, and his forces, which outnumbered the American militia, marched on Suffolk. Here on May 4, 1779, these British forces, commanded by General Matthews, burned the Town of Suffolk to the ground; they even opened barrels of turpentine and tar on the wharves, and as this burning material poured into the Nansemond River, it seemed as if there were a

²⁷MacClenny, op. cit., pp. 18-19.

river of fire.²⁸

In 1837 Suffolk was burned for a second time. The following is an extract from the diary of Joseph Prentis, Clerk of the Superior and County Courts of this Circuit and County from 1830-1851:

"Saturday, the third day of June, 1837, a fire broke out in Suffolk, at the cabinet shop of Edward Arnold, a little after meridian. The wind blew very hard from S.W., and before 6 o'clock P. M. the most valuable and thickly settled portion of the lower part of the Town, on both sides of the street was laid in ashes. The Court House and Jail were burnt; the Clerk's office, lately erected, fire-proof, escaped. About 130 houses were burnt."²⁹

Thus the town once more had to rebuild.

Again on June 7, 1885, Suffolk was devoured by a fire. This fire began in the business district in Hall and Holt's Furniture Store which was on the west side of Washington Square. The alarm was promptly given, but the wind, being so strong, caused the flames to spread quickly from store to store. Practically the entire business district and many homes were wiped out before the fire ceased its rampage. This seemed to be an irreparable disaster, but the citizens once more rebuilt the town.³⁰

The scars of the 1885 fire had barely healed when

²⁸Pollock, op. cit., pp. 83-86.

²⁹Ibid., p. 62. ³⁰Ibid., pp. 94-97.

on August 1, 1888, another fire, starting on the south side of Washington Square in a paint shop, consumed the business district and a part of the residential section of the town.³¹ This was the last big fire Suffolk has had.

Business, Industry, and Agriculture.

Nansemond County today, as in the past, is essentially an agricultural and farming region; on the other hand Suffolk thrives on its numerous businesses and industries which are located therein.

Nansemond's first major crop was tobacco which was exported to the Old World. Peanuts began to be cultivated during the Revolutionary War period, but this industry did not assume any importance until after the War between the States; today the peanut industry is the major business in Suffolk, and the raising of peanuts is the major farm crop in the county. Nansemond's and Suffolk's agricultural and manufacturing complement each other. Meat-packing houses specialize in ham and pork products. There are in the county a cannery, cotton gins, lumber plants, fish and oyster houses, fertilizer plants, a brick factory, and many plants shell, clean, grade, and package peanuts or make peanut products. All of these industries make this a

³¹Suffolk News Herald, op. cit.

thriving region of Tidewater Virginia.³²

In Suffolk proper there are three banks, churches of all principal denominations, a shopping district that serves adequately the needs of its citizens; five different railroads link the city with the rest of Virginia and the nation; the most important industry of the city is the peanut business of which the most noteworthy is Planter's Nut and Chocolate Company, known the world over for its fine peanuts and peanut products. Suffolk and Nansemond County are proud of their agricultural, farming, and business concerns, for they serve the people of the community, state, and nation.

General Information.

Suffolk is governed by the City Council-City Manager form of government, whereas Nansemond County is governed by a Board of Supervisors. Both the city and county have an adequately equipped police force and fire department, and the health facilities are very good. There is a public library containing over 5,000 volumes, a private golf course and swimming pool. Suffolk has two high schools (one white, one colored) and four elementary schools (three white, one colored); Nansemond County has five high

³²Nansemond County, a brochure of the Chamber of Commerce.

schools (three white, two colored) and six elementary schools (three white, three colored). Public utilities include electricity, water, telephone, and natural gas services. The population of Suffolk at the last official census was 12,236 and of Nansemond County 25,876. The Negro in Nansemond County and Suffolk composes more than fifty per cent of the population. Suffolk at present has a taxable wealth of \$16,257,300.00 and Nansemond County has a taxable wealth of \$19,133,981.00 with tax rates of \$3.25 per \$100.00 valuation and \$2.40 per \$100.00 valuation respectively. Numerous civic organizations serve the people both within and without this area of Virginia.

PART TWO

CHAPTER II

EARLY EDUCATION IN NANSEMOND COUNTY AND EDUCATION IN THE PARISH POOR HOUSE

The people of Nansemond County and Suffolk have long been interested in seeing that their children received at least the rudiments of learning. To substantiate this fact there are two events in Nansemond County's early history that are significant. In a paper written by Mr. W. E. MacClenny he states that this area of Tidewater allegedly had the first school teacher in Virginia; he writes as follows:

"It so happened that Peter Montague, who came over on the Charlie, settled in Nansemond County, and according to tradition became the first school teacher in Virginia. He was the progenitor of the Montague family of Virginia, but he was brought over as an indentured servant, and had some educational advantages before coming to Virginia, and one day his master saw him reading a Latin book and asked him if he could read, and from one thing to another he was soon teaching his master's children and the other children of the neighborhood. But schools were of very poor quality until Yeates started his schools in the Lower Parish."¹

The second fact in support of the belief that there was education in the county and that people were interested in it is that there was given to Nansemond County in 1691

¹W. E. MacClenny, Colonial Nansemond County, p. 2.

by Hugh Campbell 200 acres of land for the support of a person to impart religious instruction to the people living near Saumertown (Somerton) in Nansemond County, and Governor Nicholson gave his part of the marriage and license fees for this support.² From these two early events, both occurring prior to 1700, one can see that the people of this region actively wanted education. There were more than likely some private tutors, for according to Heatwole the earliest form of education in Virginia was that administered by private tutors.³

In the eighteenth century several events occurred in Nansemond County and Suffolk to foster the educational advantages in this area. The first mention of any school in the vicinity of Suffolk was in 1728. This was a "school for good grade" at Mount Pleasant just north of Pitchkettle Road.⁴ About this same time Colonel Andrew Meade of Suffolk employed tutors for his family and for his neighbors' children.⁵ General Jethro Sumner's father also had a similar school at his home, and this is prob-

²William and Mary Quarterly, Vol. III, p. 80.

³Heatwole, Cornelius, History of Education in Virginia, pp. 53-61.

⁴Suffolk News Herald, October 27, 1942.

⁵Ibid.

ably where General Sumner received his education.⁶ During the early 1700's in the part of Suffolk known as "Hangman's Hill" a school was begun through a donation of land by a Mr. Riddick.⁷

An extremely noteworthy event happened in 1731 when John Yeates, a wealthy landowner of the county, died, and in his will he provided that two free schools be set up for the education of Nansemond County's children. (Chapter III deals exclusively with these schools.)

In 1752 the vestry of upper Nansemond County decided to set up a poor house in the county to care for and educate the destitute children of this part of Virginia. "On May 14, 1752, the vestry ordered that a poor house should be built 'A Greable to the plan delivered to the Vestry this Day by Lemuel Riddick', and located near Suffolk on three acres of land to be given by Daniel Pugh for the purpose."⁸ Later the site was changed to a lot belonging to Josiah Riddick in Suffolk on Main Street.⁹ The cost of the house was 223 Pounds, and on November 14, 1754, the house was finished "According to Agreement".¹⁰

⁶Ibid. ⁷Ibid.

⁸Vestry Book of Upper Parish, Nansemond County, Virginia--1743-1793, p. lvii.

⁹Ibid. ¹⁰Ibid., p. lviii.

The vestry ordered that the house be furnished; they gave "instructions that the churchwardens should 'at Christmas Next or Some Convenient time Soon After Conveil into the Said House All the Poor Persons that now is or Hereafter Shall be Maintained at the parrish Expencc there Be Supported'; and appointed Samuel Wallis as 'Overseer and Master', who was also to 'Teach Eight poor Children Which Is to be Sent into the Said House by the Church Wardens to Read Rite &c'. For all of his services, Wallis was to receive annually 'the Sum of Twenty Pounds Current Money His own Children Accomodated and Liberty To take in And School ten Children besides the Poors Accordin as he Can Agree With there Parents &c Dureing the time As he Shall Be Continued'".¹¹ Samuel Wallis was continued at the poor house for a number of years, being rehired at the beginning of every year, but his salary was cut to ten Pounds, according to records of January 17, 1756.¹² Also on this same date the vestry voted for the following: "...that there is A woman as an assistant Employed when Occasion Requires By the church wardens and that he (Wallis) have Liberty to take in and School Fifteen Children Besides our Poor them Not Exceeding Eight."¹³

¹¹Ibid. ¹²Ibid., p. lx.

¹³Ibid.

The upkeep of the poor house was too much for the parish to bear, and after an investigation by the minister and four churchmen, who acted as "Vissators", "On January 1, 1759, the vestry declared that 'A Sufficient Number of Children Cannot be got too be Educated In the Said House and that Continueing the Said Mr. Wallice will be Running the parrish to Expence with out haveing the Desird Good Effect', and ordered the church-wardens to discharge Mr. Wallice."¹⁴

With the discharge of Mr. Wallice the church of Nansemond County discontinued its venture in public education as such, but from time to time the vestry did avail itself of Mr. Wallice's services, paying him and a man named Mr. Best at various times for teaching certain poor children; the following accounts substantiate this fact:

January 7, 1764----	"To Samuel Wallis for John Orams Schooling and Wood. £ 2..8..2 ¹⁵ .
November 22, 1769--	"To Samuel Wallis for Schooling some poor Children. £ 6..0..0 ¹⁶ .
November 26, 1770--	"To Samuel Wallice. £ 4;17;6 ¹⁷ .
December 23, 1771--	"To John Best, Junr for Schooling Bates. £ 0;8;0 ¹⁸

Even though the parish's venture into education was not

¹⁴Ibid., p. 1xi. ¹⁵Ibid., p. 162. ¹⁶Ibid., p. 198.
¹⁷Ibid., p. 202. ¹⁸Ibid., p. 207.

very long, these men knew the importance of education and wanted even the poor to obtain the basic elements of learning.

Aside from private tutoring and such an institution as William and Mary College, there were evidently other institutions for educating children in this area of Virginia. This is known to be true, for in 1785 Rev. Arthur Emmerson advertised a school in Nansemond County for instruction in foreign languages--Latin, French, Greek, and Italian; the number of scholars would not exceed twenty, the price of board and tuition was thirty Pounds a year, and particular attention was given "to reading, writing, and declamation."¹⁹

With the foregoing educational advantages and the Yeates' Free Schools, Nansemond County was doing its bit in providing educational facilities for its youth.

¹⁹Ibid., p. 197.

CHAPTER III

THE YEATES' FREE SCHOOLS

Nansemond County's first venture into public education came as a result of a philanthropic bequest. John Yeates, an English gentleman living in Nansemond County and a well-educated person himself, previous to 1731 had provided for the education of the young people of the community. He fully realized the importance of education, and wishing to perpetuate his educational and philanthropic ventures, he provided for two schools in his will when he died in 1731.¹ The portion of the will pertaining to education is as follows:

"I give and bequeath all my land or lands in Virginia and all the rents and profits of the same to the following use and uses: The rents, thereof, now by lease or otherwise, may be converted to the use of a free-school or schools, in the lower part of Nansemond, formerly so-called, being the parish I have so long lived in, among such friendly neighbors; and that there may be two schools continued in the same place already fixed, which I have built, so that one school-house will be very convenient for the children of one side of Bennett's Creek, and the other on the other side thereof, which will complete that part of the parish, as formerly I have done; and by that means, with God's blessing, the most or all of the children in those parts will be educated from the Glebe down to the extent of that part of the parish lying on the south side of Nansemond River, which formerly was called the Lower Parish of Nansemond.

¹Catalog of Driver High and Graded Schools, Driver, Virginia, 1909-10, p. 8.

"What books I have or shall give for the use of the school or schools, may lie in the desk in the school house, under lock and key, in each school house as I have provided, that when children have read those books they may be there ready for the other children also."²

The will further provided for a gift of ten Pounds "to buy books for the poorer sort of inhabitants in the parish, as the Whole Duty of Man; also for procuring Testaments, Psalters, Primers" for the several schools.

There is not too much known about the schools prior to the early nineteenth century for the early records have been destroyed. It is known, however, that during the Revolutionary War there were ample means for running the schools even though the terms were very short; it is further known that the administration of the whole property was placed in the hands of a Board of Trustees, composed of seven freeholders of the Lower Parish.³

From the Vestry records 1778-1784 it is recorded that Solomon Shepherd reported to the vestry a balance of 17 Pounds 10 Shillings 1 Pence for the year 1778-79 by the trustees of the school.⁴

²Guy Fred Wells, Parish Education in Colonial Virginia, pp. 230-231.

³Catalog of Driver High and Graded School, pp. 8-9.

⁴William and Mary Quarterly--Second Series, Vol. V., p. 34.

On January 1, 1781, James Buxton, Willis Streaton, Thomas Benn, and Solomon Shepherd, Trustees to the free schools, reported a balance of 42 Pounds 11 Shillings 9 Pence.⁵

The trustees of the schools listed the following accounts and proceedings relative to the free schools:⁶

"1780--To cash paid William Hudnal for teaching school	800 Pounds
1780--To Mr. Wishart	11;1;9½
1781--Cash paid Mr. Fulgham for teaching the school 9 months.	25 Pounds
1782--To cash paid Mr. Hudnal for teaching school	50 Pounds
1783--To cash paid Mr. Fulgham for teaching school	50 Pounds
Ditto Mr. Fell	43 Pounds
1784--To cash paid Nathaniel Buxton for teaching school	50 Pounds
To ditto Mr. Possellford	45 Pounds"

On January 10, 1803, the affairs of the school were placed on a more secure basis by an act of the General Assembly. This act provided for and incorporated a Board of Trustees of twelve free-holders who were to manage the property and schools; these trustees were also overseers of the poor and were known as "The Trustees of all the Donations and the Yeates' Free Schools &c". Later, a subsequent act of the General Assembly reduced the trustees

⁵Ibid., p. 35.

⁶Ibid., pp. 35 and 36.

to eight.⁷

It is not known how many slaves Yeates left in 1731, but in 1804 there were nineteen who were hired out for 48 Pounds 9 Shillings 6 Pence. In 1844 the slaves had increased and their hire brought in \$738.00. In 1860 the slaves had increased to eighty-five and their hire brought in \$3,672.75. In 1855 the rents of the 1,007 acres brought in \$276.50, and in 1857 the rent was \$470.00.⁸

In 1860 these two schools were reported in good condition. They possessed important facilities for imparting instruction and "extensive chemical and philosophical equipment"; the teachers were considered competent and popular; and they taught a thorough academic course. The buildings were nearly new and in good condition.⁹

Before the War between the States the total value of the farms, buildings, slaves and farm animals that Yeates left was about \$100,000.00¹⁰

Very little, if any, schooling was carried on during the War. After the War in 1866, nineteen-twentieths of the people living within the bounds of these schools

⁷"Catalog of Yeates' Free Schools" as found in the William and Mary Quarterly Second Series, Vol. V., p. 34.

⁸Ibid. ⁹Ibid., p. 37.

¹⁰Catalog of Driver High School, op. cit., p. 12

signed a petition begging the legislature to sell all the lands left by the will of John Yeates.¹¹ These people feared that the Negroes would be allowed to go to these schools on an equal footing with the white children.¹² The legislature passed an act, and the lands were sold in the same year at a fraction of their worth. These funds were used to carry on the schools for a number of years, and as the money grew less, it was supplemented by aid received from state funds for public instruction.¹³

Very little is known about the pupil population of the schools, but in 1872 there were one hundred eleven students with three teachers. The principals were R. L. Brewer and A. P. Gomer who was succeeded in 1885 by J. A. Williams. The schools never charged any tuition even after the lands were sold.¹⁴

Finally, the only remnants of the generous gift of John Yeates were two buildings, and in 1906 these were abandoned as they were antiquated and in poor condition.¹⁵ The Driver High and Graded School in Nansemond County thus

¹¹Ibid., pp. 8-9. ¹²Ibid., p. 12.

¹³Ibid., pp. 12-14.

¹⁴Raymond P. G. Bowman, Secondary Education in Virginia, 1870-1886, p. 206.

¹⁵Catalog of Driver High School, op. cit., p. 14.

came into being as a result of the closing of the Yeates' Free Schools, and later on this school was replaced by the DeJarnette High School at Driver.

CHAPTER IV

PRIVATE EDUCATION IN SUFFOLK AND NANSEMOND COUNTY, 1800-1868

With the advent of the 1800's Suffolk and Nansemond County became thriving educational communities. There was an abundance of institutes, seminaries, colleges, academies, and private schools as well as private tutoring in the homes of the well-to-do.

Private Tutoring.

Private tutoring played a prominent part in the educational life of this area. Among those listed as private tutors were James Arnold in 1820, James M. Dailey and Rev. Benjamin Hollowell in 1821, Kena Chapman in 1822-23, James Hobbs in 1824-25, James Dailey again in 1826, James Perry, an Englishman, in 1827, and Blair P. B. Hunter in 1831.¹

During the 1830's a Mr. Walton taught the children of Jesse Bartley at the Urquhart Farm, and Miss Dorothy Benn taught at the Powell Farm in Nansemond County.²

¹The personal papers of W. E. MacClenny in the library at the University of Virginia.

²W. E. MacClenny, from notes of a speech before the King's Fork P. T. A. in 1923.

Little more is known about private tutoring until 1850 when Francis Capps was teaching the children of James Hargrove in the Lower Parish; William H. Eley was instructing the children of Jethro Riddick at Cypress Chapel; George W. Skinner was teaching in the home of Javan Riddick Franklin; John R. Copeland employed James M. Rawls to instruct his two daughters, Mary Catherine and Beverly; and Henry B. Marks and Richard L. Brewer had private tutoring in their homes for their children and a few children of the neighborhood.³

Private tutoring did not last too long after the mid-1800's, for private schools assumed increasing importance, and the War between the States caused most education in this area to cease entirely.

Seminaries, Colleges, Schools, Institutes.

The Nineteenth Century became for Suffolk and Nansemond County a century of educational development and progress; this era was marked by the establishment of numerous educational institutions in this area of Tidewater Virginia. There were many schools of which little is known other than that they existed. Some of these

³Suffolk News Herald, October, 1942.

little known schools of the early 1800's included the following: Bennett DeFord's school which was located near the Christian Church and Nat Phillips' place;⁴ the school at Providence Church in the old church building, which was taught by Jack and Charles Sumner, a Mrs. Hines, Mr. Story, and Stephen A. Barcker, which lasted until the Civil War; a school on the Darius King Farm belonging to Jesse Kind, Sr., which stayed in existence until the Civil War; and old school at Wiles' or Branch's Fork which at one time was a store used by Mr. Alex Moore and for a short time was kept by a graduate of Virginia Military Institute.⁵

Around 1822 on Academy Hill near Mahan Street in Suffolk a school was started and run by several people, the most notable being Joel Holleman who was graduated from the University of North Carolina; many prominent people supposedly attended this school.⁶ About this time also both Miss Maggie Allen and Rev. Robert G. Williams had private schools on North Main Street in Suffolk.⁷ Other private schools of the early 1800's were conducted by Mr. Virginus S. Kelley and by a Mr. Murdaugh; in the 1830's a girls' school was begun in the First Baptist Church and

⁴Ibid. ⁵MacClenny, King's Fork Speech, op. cit.

⁶Suffolk News Herald, October, 1942.

⁷Ibid.

functioned until the Civil War when it was burned.⁸ The Factory Hill School existed in Nansemond County during the 1830's, but nothing is known of this school other than its name.⁹

The Suffolk Academy was incorporated by an act of the General Assembly in 1836. In 1837 the trustees reported that they had received funds in the amount of \$456.34 from the School Commissioners for 1836-37; this money was spent to pay male and female teachers and to purchase maps and globes for the school.¹⁰ In 1837 the trustees stated that they had many difficulties in getting the school started, but they felt that it could be operated independently if help could be received. In 1838 help amounting to \$238.33 was received. However, increased financial problems caused the school to cease operation in 1840.¹¹

In 1843 there was a school in Suffolk known as Kinsale Academy; it is known this school existed, for Thomas H. Barnes, a well-known doctor, attended this institution.¹² Nothing more is recorded about this school.

⁸Ibid.

⁹Works Progress Administration of Virginia, Historical Inventory in the County of Nansemond, done by Mary T. McMullan.

¹⁰John W. Boitnott, Secondary Education in Virginia, 1845-1870, (unpublished Master's thesis, University of Virginia, Charlottesville), p. 165. ¹¹Ibid.

¹²Leon G. Tyler, Men of Mark in Virginia, p. 26.

Spring Hill Seminary was existing in 1851 at Cypress Chapel in Nansemond County. In an advertisement of the Norfolk and Portsmouth Herald of January 1, 1851, Jethro Riddick, Edward C. Riddick, and James Rogers, trustees of this school, advertised for a teacher. They wished to employ someone with "steady habits and undoubted moral and literary qualifications". A liberal salary was promised the successful applicant.¹³

In the newspaper The Southern Argus of August 27, 1860, it is reported that J. H. Phillips founded the Chuckatuok Military Academy probably in 1853, and it was run by him for several years. Instruction was offered in English, French, Latin, mathematics, natural philosophy, chemistry, geology, physiology, civil and military engineering, military tactics, logic and rhetoric. Board and tuition amounted to about \$150.00 for ten months. In 1860 Phillips wrote the following:¹⁴

"The success which has attended the efforts of the principal in building up this school, together with the numerous letters of patrons expressing satisfaction, act as stimulants to renewed effort, and from improvements suggested by experience, it is expected that next will be the most pleasant and successful session in the history of the school."

¹³Boitnott, op. cit., p. 163.

¹⁴Ibid., p. 162.

The school, which had as many as eighty cadets per session, lasted until 1861 when it was closed and the cadets joined the Confederate forces.¹⁵

In 1856 Holy Neck Seminary was established in Nansemond County. This was a non-sectarian seminary and was open to pupils of both sexes. It was probably founded by Rev. C. A. Apple (or Appee) who was principal from 1872-1876. There were thirty girls and boys enrolled in 1872, but for the next few years the seminary operated with decreasing enrollment until in 1876 the school was closed. Courses of study included English, classical and modern languages; drawing and art were special features of the curriculum. The average board and tuition amounted to \$150.00 per year.¹⁶

Prior to the Civil War Miss Nora Barlow and a Miss Wiggins were teaching schools in Chuckatuck in Nansemond County. So highly were these schools regarded that people from Suffolk sent their sons and daughters to Chuckatuck to be educated.

¹⁵personal papers of W. E. MacClenny found at the Alderman Library, University of Virginia.

¹⁶Raymond P. G. Bowman, Secondary Education in Virginia--1870-1886 (unpublished Master's thesis, University of Virginia, Charlottesville), pp. 207-208.

¹⁷MacClenny's personal papers.

The following schools were also being conducted prior to the Civil War: Miss Fannie Sumner taught a girls' school on North Main Street; Mrs. C. H. Causey, Sr., taught a school at the Masonic Hall on North Main Street in Suffolk; Professor Edward A. Allen taught a private school at a place called "Rose Hill" in Nasemond County; and W. D. Williams had a female school at his home in Suffolk.¹⁸

Very little education was carried on during the Civil War, but afterwards schools began to flourish again. In 1865 the first colored school was established and run by some Northerners who sent down teachers and paid their expenses. However, no one ever knew exactly where the school got its money,¹⁹ and it is not certain whether there were any tuition charges for the students.

The Misses Pinney taught a school at the R. H. B. Denson place on the county line for a few years after the War, but later they moved it to Chuckatuck and finally to Suffolk.²⁰

Just after the Civil War two young ladies, Misses Robertson, Quakers, came down from the North and opened a

¹⁸Suffolk News Herald, October, 1942.

¹⁹Ibid.

²⁰MacClenny's personal papers.

school for ex-slaves near the Quaker Church in the Holy Neck district. This aroused sectional feeling, and the school and the church were burned to the ground on the same night.²¹

Schools were also run by Dr. W. B. Wellons who had a girls' school on West Washington Street, by Miss Jenny Brewer, by Mr. Henry Jones who had a school at the Cutchins' place, by Mr. Cornelius Hall who conducted a school for young men, by Mr. Benjamin Bullock in the vicinity of Holy Neck, by Miss Mollie Brennan, by C. J. Halston at Holy Neck, and by Cornelius J. Appee.²²

In 1868 John Murray, M. A., and Edward A. Allen, M. A., graduates of the University of Virginia, announced the first session of their classical school. They planned to organize the school after the fashion of the university system. The total expenses per pupil were not to exceed \$275.00 per session.²³ How long this school existed has not been determined.

All the aforementioned schools played an important role in the educational life of this community, but very

²¹MacGlenny, "The Quakers of the Section".

²²MacGlenny's personal papers.

²³Boitnott, op. cit., p. 163.

few of them lasted for any length of time; most of the schools ceased operation during the Civil War, and after the War the majority of the parents of this section could not afford to send their children to these schools.

CHAPTER V

PRIVATE EDUCATION IN SUFFOLK AND NANSEMOND COUNTY, 1869-1910

From the 1870's until the early 1900's Suffolk and Nansemond County were flourishing private educational communities. This chapter is concerned with the final portion of private education in this area of Tidewater Virginia. Each institution will be discussed under its own heading.

Suffolk Female Institute.

Probably the most outstanding private educational institution ever to exist in Suffolk, the Suffolk Female Institute (sometimes known as Finney's College) was incorporated by an act of the General Assembly, approved February 25, 1880; the college was chartered, however, in 1869. The institute was located in the old Central Hotel "in the town of Suffolk, Nansemond County, Virginia, in one of the most healthy sections of the state". The school, founded by the five Finney sisters, occupied two "comfortable and commodious" houses, and its aim was "to advance the students entrusted to the school in all that constitutes a liberal education".¹ In 1872 Miss Sally M.

¹Catalogue of Suffolk Female Institute of 1879-80.

Finney was principal assisted by two female teachers; the trustees were the five Finney sisters who had the usual corporate powers with a proviso which stated that they couldn't hold property in excess of \$30,000.00; in the same year there were forty-three pupils, and tuition was \$2.50 a month with board being \$15.00 a month.²

In 1879 the faculty and subjects taught were as follows: Sally M. Finney, principal--math, Latin, modern languages, mental philosophy; Martha J. Finney and Fanny D. Summer--English, history, moral philosophy, natural science, and introductory courses; Mary D. H. Finney--science of music, vocal and other music with piano and organ; Martha J. Finney-- wax and other ornamental work; Evalina M. Finney-- domestic and boarding department; Dr. John T. Kilby and Dr. P. B. Baker--physicians. There was a School of English and English Literature and History, a School of Mathematics, a School of French, a School of German, a School of Latin, a School of Natural Sciences, a School of Mental and Moral Philosophy, a School of Music, and Primary and Introductory Courses. A Certificate of Distinction was awarded upon mastery of a course, a Certificate of Proficiency was given upon the completion of a department,

²John W. Boitnott, Secondary Education in Virginia--1845-1870, (unpublished Master's thesis, University of Virginia, Charlottesville) p. 165.

and a diploma of Graduation was given upon completion of the complete college course of study. There were two school sessions of twenty weeks each, and in 1879-80 the fees were \$60.00 for board and room, \$15.00 for tuition, and \$5.00 incidental fee.³

In 1892 the charter was amended and the name changed to Suffolk College; the original Board of Trustees remained unchanged, however. Miss Sally M. Finney was still principal when the school ceased operation around 1904.⁴ Thus ended Suffolk's most renowned private educational institution after only thirty-five years of existence.

Suffolk Collegiate and Military Institute.

The Suffolk Collegiate and Military Institute, opened January 8, 1872, was formally chartered March 4, 1872, at 447 West Washington Street in Suffolk. At first it was an instrument of the Christian Church, but eventually it became a private school.⁵

The general plan of the school was "to afford students the best facilities for acquiring a thorough and practical education and to prepare them for a college or

³Catalogue of Suffolk Female Institute, op. cit.

⁴Boitnott, op. cit., p. 166.

⁵MacClenny's personal papers.

university course, or for the practical duties of business life". The faculty of the school in 1895 included P. J. Kernodle, principal, Kenner T. Crawley, H. Carrington Coles, C. Coleman Crawley, J. M. Gibson, J. D. Daughtrey, R. E. Parker and J. M. Gibson, physicians. The courses of instruction were as follows: Preparatory Department (spelling, writing, geography, map drawing, U. S. History, grammar, composition); Academic Department (mathematics, languages, social studies and regular school work); Business Department (bookkeeping, shorthand, typing, business law, economics, telegraphy); Military Department. There were special schools for law and medicine on a very limited basis. Both sexes were admitted to the school, and the fees were \$30.00 for room and board and \$20.00-\$25.00 for tuition. The school boasted that "Modern teaching methods are not used and fossilized methods are not tolerated" and that in the school "Character is primary, conduct is resultant".⁶

It is known that the school was still active in 1898, for according to the Suffolk News Herald of July 23, 1898, W. G. Welborn was the acting principal.⁷ Shortly

⁶Catalogue of Suffolk Collegiate and Military Institute--1895-96.

⁷Suffolk Herald, July 23, 1898.

after this year the school caught fire and burned to the ground.

Nansemond Seminary.

Located at 34 and 36 Bank Street in Suffolk, Nansemond Seminary was founded in 1875 by Mrs. Lucy T. Quimby and Mrs. Fanny C. Mundy (sisters) who were educated at Ingham University in New York and Leipsic Conservatory of Music in Germany.⁸

In 1879 the faculty and courses were as follows: E. W. Beale, principal; P. J. Kernodle--mental and moral science, ancient and modern languages, higher mathematics; Virginus S. Kilby--Natural Science, Mathematics, and Latin; Rev. W. T. Walker--Biblical Literature and Moral Philosophy; Mrs. L. T. Quimby--elocution, rhetoric, history, French; Miss Fannie L. Colvin--music; P. C. Close--violin. Board in 1879 was \$10.00 a month and tuition suited the times.⁹

According to the catalogue of 1894 the faculty and courses of instruction had increased as follows: Mrs. Lucy T. Quimby, principal; Mrs. Fanny C. Mundy, principal of the Music Department; Mrs. Alex H. Baker--principal of

⁸Catalogue of Nansemond Seminary--1894-95.

⁹Suffolk Herald, July 23, 1879.

the Art Department; Mrs. Lucy T. Quimby--psychology, ethics, English, composition, Latin, French; E. P. Miner--higher mathematics and general science; Mrs. Fanny C. Mundy--vocalization, piano, organ, guitar, harmony, history, theory of music; Miss Frances Laryman Quimby--violin, piano, organ; Miss Helen Sherwood Quimby--violin, piano, organ; Miss Mary Brothers--assistant in English and Latin; Mrs. Fanny C. Mundy--home department and physical culture. The tuition, room and board in 1894 was \$36.25-\$40.00 a year. The catalogue stated that "Hanscom Seminary is noted for its advanced methods, superior text-books, and enthusiastic teachers. It affords exceptionally favorable advantages in its home life. Individual care and attention is given to a limited number of students."¹⁰

This boarding school for ladies and young girls came to an end around the turn of the century.

Suffolk Military Academy.

Founded in 1875 in Suffolk, the Suffolk Military Academy was a school to prepare students for entering higher military schools. The school included "a study hall, dining room, reading room, armory, recitation rooms, dormitories, and well-kept lawns". In 1884 the faculty

¹⁰ Catalogue of Hanscom Seminary, op. cit.

consisted of Joseph King as principal, W. W. Briggs as associate principal, Mrs. W. W. Briggs, and Dr. A. W. Eley and Dr. John T. Kilby, physicians; in 1886 Captain George T. Parker and Mrs. Roland Doggett were added to the faculty. The academy included schools of mathematics, natural science, English, Latin, French, German, mental and moral philosophy, and primary and grammar school departments, and a military department. The fees included \$120.00 for board and room and \$5.00-\$25.00 incidental expenses.¹¹

The object of the school was "mental, moral, and physical development". The school, being a military institution, emphasized discipline; demerits were given for abusive language, drinking at any time or anywhere during the school year, improper dress, and disorderly conduct; if a student got 125 demerits during the school year, he was dismissed from the school. From the following quotation it can be seen that discipline and study were foremost:

"We are opposed to Christmas holidays because they disorganize the school and seriously retard the pupils' progress in study, but as we are unable to control the matter, inasmuch as parents will allow their sons to go home, we have concluded to give two weeks--the week before and during the holiday."¹²

There was a girls' division of the Suffolk Military

¹¹Catalogue of Suffolk Military Academy--1894.

¹²Ibid.

Academy known as Hyland Institute. It gave instruction in music, stenography, typewriting, art, elocution, languages, literature, and science. In 1892 Lula M. Dutt was principal and Miss M. Lila Kindred was one of the teachers.¹³ This school also ended about the turn of the century.

Mrs. L. A. Christie's School.

Mrs. L. A. Christie operated a school near Washington Square in Suffolk from 1875-1881.¹⁴ Nothing more is known of this school.

Mrs. Kate McGuire's School.

Mrs. Kate McGuire ran a school in Suffolk on Main Street near Bank Street which she began in 1875 and ran for a very few years.¹⁵

Mrs. M. W. Wiggins' Select Home School for Young Ladies and Little Girls.

Mrs. M. W. Wiggins, being the principal and a full graduate of one of America's foremost seminaries, ran this Select Home School for Young Ladies and Little Girls on

¹³Suffolk Herald, August 12, 1892 and June 17, 1892.

¹⁴Bowman, op. cit., p. 208

¹⁵Ibid.

on Main Street in Suffolk; the school was started September, 1877. Superior educational advantages were offered at very moderate terms; the fees included board and English tuition \$68.00 per term, music \$16.00 per term and languages \$5.00 per term.¹⁶

This school never placed an advertisement in the local paper after 1879, so it is not known how much longer it existed.

Miss Mollie Brennan's School.

Miss Mollie Brennan held a school at her home on Main Street in the late 1870's and early 1880's.¹⁷

Miss M. Fannie Riddick's Kindergarten.

Miss Riddick opened a kindergarten at her home in Suffolk in 1879. In an advertisement she stated that this school "is a beautiful system of imparting knowledge in a pleasant way."¹⁸

West End Seminary.

The West End Seminary was begun in 1887 and run by Colonel William H. Darden and his daughter as principals

¹⁶Suffolk Herald, July 23, 1879.

¹⁷Suffolk Herald, September 9, 1879.

¹⁸Suffolk Herald, September 17, 1879.

and Miss Lizzie King as the associate. This school ran for only a very few years.¹⁹

Mrs. Alex H. Baker's Art School.

Mrs. Baker's Art School opened on September 19, 1892, in her studio rooms in the Boothe Building on Washington Square. She offered courses in drawing and painting, including still life, India ink, pastel, water color, china painting, and wood carving. Mrs. Baker was the principal.²⁰

Miss Florence Harvey's School.

Miss Harvey opened a private girls' school for young ladies and girls on September 13, 1893. This school lasted a very short time.²¹

The Select Private School of Whaleyville.

Miss Anne Sheffield was the principal of this school which operated in Whaleyville in Hantsmond County during the latter part of the 1800's. The fees were very moderate, and the school term was ten full months. Mr. A. D. Milteer was one of the trustees of this school, according to an advertisement in the Suffolk Herald.²²

¹⁹Suffolk News Herald, October, 1942.

²⁰Suffolk Herald, August 12, 1892.

²¹Suffolk Herald, September 15, 1893.

²²Suffolk Herald, August 21, 1896.

The West End Home School for Young Ladies.

This school opened September 14, 1896, having a faculty of "four lady teachers, assisted by gentlemen of experience in the departments of Science and Mathematics". There were preparatory, intermediate, sophomore, junior, and senior courses which included instruction in elocution, music, languages, and physical culture (Delsarte). There were no commencement exercises, but patrons and friends were occasionally invited "to attend social entertainments, literary, and music recitals during the session". The principals were Mrs. A. B. Cowling and Miss L. J. King, A. M.²³

The Nansemond Industrial Institute.

The Nansemond Industrial Institute, the only private Negro school in the vicinity of Suffolk, was begun in 1907 by the colored people of this area. The school, being under the auspices of the Bethany Church Association, was for both sexes and free of sectarianism. A parcel of land was purchased in 1908 by the trustees for \$4,500.00, and in the same year the school was sadly in need of a dormitory, furniture, books, bed clothing, and papers. The faculty in 1908 included Rev. W. H. King, president,

²³Ibid.

Dr. W. T. Fuller, Mrs. Ida E. Morris, Prof. I. L. Bailey, Mrs. J. P. White, and Luvenia P. Scott, and Ada R. Smallwood, student instructors; courses were offered in arithmetic, grammar, geography, history, physiology, spelling Bible, etymology, government, rhetoric, physics, zoology, Latin, bookkeeping, pedagogics, logics, political economy, music, industrial work. In addition to classwork boys had a mechanical department in which they had to work an hour a day in carpentry and care of the campus, while girls worked an hour a day in the laundry and took instruction in cooking, housekeeping, and dress making. The fees were room and board \$5.50 a month and tuition \$1.00 a month. Even though there were 108 students in 1909, the school had a very short existence.²⁴

The University School.

The University School, located in Nansemond County, was a military school for boys and young men. In operation for a short time in the early 1900's, the school advertised as follows in 1909:

"Prepares for college, university and life. Boarding students accomodated. Students have use of Suffolk's Y. M. C. A. \$10,000.00 building with gymnasium, reading room, baths, etc."

²⁴Catalogue of Nansemond Industrial Institute--1909-1910.

Nathaniel C. Starke, Ph. B., was principal.²⁵

Suffolk Normal Training School.

Suffolk Normal Training School was in existence in Suffolk for the Negro populace during 1909 and 1910. Its president was J. F. Jordan, and in 1909 there were 184 students with a faculty of three teachers.²⁶

Suffolk and Nansemond County have had many private schools of which they can justly be proud and which contributed greatly to their growth and prosperity. However, through lack of financial support and the advent of free public education, these schools were not able to exist very long.

²⁵Catalogue of Driver High and Graded School--
1909-10.

²⁶Annual Report of the Superintendent of Public
Instruction--1909-10, p. 24.

PART THREE

CHAPTER VI

PUBLIC EDUCATION PRIOR TO 1870 IN NANSEMOND COUNTY AND PUBLIC EDUCATION IN SUFFOLK AND NANSEMOND COUNTY, 1870-1910

Public education, as we know it today in Virginia, was begun through legislation enacted in 1870 by the General Assembly. A type of public education, however, had been existent in Nansemond County for years before this, as was pointed out in Chapters II and III of this paper concerning the school at the Parish Poor House and Yeates' Free Schools. From the early 1820's there were also existing "primary schools" in Nansemond County, as well as over the entire state, which were supported by public funds and which were open to all classes of pupils.

A typical report of the school commissioners of the primary schools in Nansemond County is the one for the year 1831-32 which contained the following statistics: (1) there were fifteen local school commissioners, (2) there were twenty schools attended by poor children, (3) there were one hundred fifty poor children in the county with one hundred eleven being sent to school, (4) there was an aggregate attendance of 8,049 days with seventy-three days

being the average attendance yearly of each child, (5) the rate of tuition was four and one-third cents per day per child, (6) the average amount paid for each child during the year was \$3.53, which included all expenses, and (7) the yearly expenditures for tuition and all other expenses for the year were \$391.35.¹

In 1839-40 the school commissioners of Nansemond County in their annual report stated that "children from eight to twenty have been mostly entered and males generally preferred. The teachers are considered competent and the children have made fair improvement."² The school commissioners in the county varied from year to year from nine to twenty. The first available listing of school commissioners for Nansemond County was in 1844-45 as follows: John W. Dickinson, Frederick H. Cabell, Harlow W. Heath, Charles P. Rodes, Wilson Peters, Seaton H. Loving, Waddey W. Roberts, Daniel L. Wright, N. Francis Cabell, and Robert C. Jones.³

This system of public education lasted in Virginia until about 1861, when as a result of the War between the

¹Journal House of Delegates, 1832-33, Doc. IV.

²Journal House of Delegates, 1839-40, Doc. IV.

³Journal House of Delegates, 1844-45, Doc. IV.

States, the system was forced to cease.

Public Education in Suffolk and Nansemond County, 1870-1910.

At the Constitutional Convention which met in Richmond during 1867-1868, the delegates decided upon a system of free public education and were to appoint a superintendent of public instruction who in turn would present a uniform system of free public education.⁴ Reverend William H. Ruffner was appointed the first state school superintendent. He formulated "An Act to Establish and Maintain a Uniform System of Public Free Schools" which became law on July 11, 1870, after a few minor changes.⁵ Each county was to have a school superintendent and school trustees were to administer the schools of the district.⁶ Suffolk, perhaps anticipating this new state school policy on education, appointed its first school board in 1869; this school board consisted of three members--Captain E. B. Britt, John R. Kilby, and William D. McClenny. The first school superintendent of Nansemond County was Richard L. Brewer, Sr.,⁷ who remained in that position until 1882.⁸ The first school term

⁴Henry B. Brockwell, History of Education in Petersburg, 1, pp. 65-67.

⁵Ibid., p. 67. ⁶Ibid. p. 68.

⁷Norfolk Virginian-Pilot, 75th Anniversary Ed.

⁸Suffolk News-Herald, Oct., 1942.

averaged 3.77 months; there were 791 pupils enrolled with an average attendance of 569 pupils; there were twenty-eight teachers employed in twenty-two white and six colored school rooms; and there was an average salary of \$28.92 per teacher per month and \$1.02 was spent on each pupil per month.⁹ After the first school session of 1870-71, Superintendent Brewer wrote the following for the State Superintendent's Annual Report: "I am rather inclined to believe that public sentiment is now more favorable to public schools than at the introduction of the system."¹⁰ He also stated that he believed that a good teacher should get \$30.00-\$40.00 per month.¹¹ Superintendent Brewer further reported that the colored population showed a great interest in education and that the county had adopted the following state-approved textbooks: Holmes's Spellers and Readers, Venable's Arithmetic, Maury's Geographies, and Sullivan's Grammars.¹²

In 1872 a new school board was appointed which consisted of Joseph P. Webb, B. F. Cutchins and E. B. Britt,¹³ and the school session had been increased to 4.64 months.

⁹Annual Report of Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1871.

¹⁰Ibid., p. 151. ¹¹Ibid. ¹²Ibid.

¹³Norfolk Virginian-Pilot, op. cit.

There had also been an increase to 1,306 pupils and forty-one teachers who averaged a salary of \$25.98 per month.¹⁴

The desire for public education in Suffolk and Nansemond County is evidenced by the fact that during the 1870's the Town of Suffolk had a tax of six cents per \$100.00 value of property for the support of public schools,¹⁵ and in the county throughout the 1870's the supervisors appropriated money each year for the public schools to Superintendent Brewer in amounts varying from \$100.00 to \$300.00 per month.¹⁶

Public education in Nansemond County almost ceased to exist in the latter 1870's, particularly during the year 1879-80. Due to a diversion of state school funds, schools in Nansemond County, as well as those over the state, were forced to close. [Note: This diversion of school funds came about as a result of the state auditor's using the funds that had been set aside for public education for other means so as to help balance state accounts.] During this year of 1879-80 there were only seventy-six white students and one hundred six colored students enrolled in the schools

¹⁴Annual Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1872, passim.

¹⁵Suffolk Herald, October 1, 1879.

¹⁶Minutes of Nansemond County Board of Supervisors, Book I, passim.

of Nansemond County with three white teachers and two colored teachers earning an average salary of \$18.11 per month; the school term was five months long.¹⁷ Fortunately, schools got back to normal by the next year and public education began to push forward again.

In 1891, after ten years of statewide public education, there were 1,929 pupils enrolled in Nansemond County's schools with about one-third of these in the Town of Suffolk, and there were twenty-seven white teachers and nineteen colored teachers employed earning an average salary of \$24.63. The average time taught was a little more than five months.¹⁸

Concerning Public School Number I located in Suffolk, the following article appeared in the Suffolk Herald in June, 1891:

"The public school taught by Lizzie A. Christie and Miss Mollie A. Brennan in the public school building, formerly Temperance Hall, was closed on Friday last after a successful session of five months. There were 73 pupils on the rolls and the average daily attendance was nearly 60. Handsome prizes were awarded to Robert Hodges and Diana Franklin of Mrs. Christie's class and to Linwood Flippe, Dora Dennis and Daisy Elam of Miss Brennan's class for correct deportment, and the last named little misses scoring exactly even at the close of the school session. The school is

¹⁷Annual Report of Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1879.

¹⁸Annual Report of Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1891.

conducted by most excellent and efficient school teachers, and patrons are highly gratified with the results obtained.¹⁹

Public education in Nansemond County was made secure during the 1880's, for the school budget by 1882 had grown to the amount of \$7,877.68,²⁰ whereas during the 1870's it had fluctuated between \$3,024.24 and \$7,073.68.²¹ It was also during this decade of the 1880's that Nansemond County had two new superintendents who furthered education in this district of Tidewater. In 1882 R. L. Brewer, Sr., was succeeded by Virginus S. Kilby who was superintendent until 1886. In 1886 Superintendent Kilby was succeeded by Lee Britt who remained as superintendent until 1913.²²

By 1892 public education had become accepted in Nansemond County by all of the populace. The teaching staff had increased to seventy-two people; the average salary had become \$30.02 per month; the expenditures were \$15,899.73; and the school year had increased to 5.8 months or 115 days.²³ The year 1892 proved significant to Suffolk public school history for other reasons. The school board, which heretofore had met only sporadically,

¹⁹Suffolk Herald, June 15, 1891.

²⁰Annual Report of Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1882.

²¹Annual Report of Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1872-1879.

²²Suffolk Herald, Oct. 1942. ²³Annual Report of Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1892.

began meeting regularly twice a year;²⁴ and the Town Council "proposed to extend Saratoga Street northward to the Seaboard Railroad, remove the present school building (in the old Temperance Hall), and run a street through its site to connect with a street running east from Pine Street, and locate the new public school building on the Southwest corner of Saratoga Street extended and the new cross street (Freemason)."²⁵ This new public school was begun in April, 1893, under the contractor H. D. Abdell with W. D. Barnes doing the brick and stone work, Burwell Riddick doing the tin, iron and slate work, and Archie A. Turner doing the paint work. It was built to accommodate 300 students, and "it contained six large, well-ventilated and splendidly-lighted rooms including desks and blackboards, an assembly room, cloak rooms and closets, wash rooms on each floor." Being located in the center of town, it had no grounds.²⁶ The first fall term in the new building began on September 18, 1893, with an approximate enrollment of 200 students. Professor P. St. Julien Wilson, a VMI graduate, was the principal and the faculty consisted of Miss Lizzie Britt, Susie Prentiss, Ella Beale, and Willie Harrell. At the time of the opening the school board consisted of Capt. E.

²⁴Ibid. ²⁵Suffolk Herald, Sept. 9, 1892.

²⁶Suffolk Herald, Sept. 15, 1893.

B. Britt, Dr. A. W. Eloy, and B. F. Cutchin.²⁷ In the Suffolk Herald of May, 1907, the new high school was described as a "comfortable and commodious affair" and had been built at a cost of \$10,000.00 including furnishings.²⁸ In addition to the regular courses required by the state, courses were given in "Stenography, typewriting, commercial forms and usages, etc." The paper further stated that "all departments are presided over by teachers of experience and ability, only those having been selected whose moral character as well as whose mental attainments make them fit guardians of youth."²⁹ Thus, it is evident that people in and around the Town of Suffolk were proud of their educational facilities.

With the turn of the Twentieth Century, public education continued to progress rapidly. By 1900 the school population had increased to 3,476 students and the faculty to eighty-five teachers. School expenditures had increased to \$14,593.61 with the average teacher's salary being \$31.37 per month. The school term was still a little over five months or 110 days.³⁰

²⁷Ibid.

²⁸Suffolk Herald, May, 1907, Special Edition for Jamestown Exposition.

²⁹Ibid. ³⁰Annual Report of Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1900.

In 1904 the Town of Suffolk took its first step toward becoming an independent district in the County of Nansemond. On July 8, 1904, Suffolk was made a single school district in the county. Three trustees were appointed to act as the school board for the Town of Suffolk; these were Dr. H. W. Eley, Capt. E. B. Britt, and Bradford Kilby, Esq.³¹

In addition to the new school building, the white school population of Suffolk was housed in such places as Pythian Hall, in a house next door to the high school, over a store in the business district, and at the old Suffolk College. The colored population was housed in a frame building on Smith Street; this school was called the Suffolk Colored Graded School and A. J. Brown was the principal.³²

The curriculum of the high school in Suffolk during the early 1900's included Southern literature, Latin, French, higher mathematics, English, literature, algebra, rhetoric, history, grammar, spelling, physics, and physiology, in addition to the limited commercial subjects.³³

³¹Minutes of Suffolk Town Council, July 8, 1904.

³²Suffolk News Herald, Oct., 1942.

³³Suffolk News Herald, Aug., 27, 1950.

There were several different principals of the high school who were Prof. J. P. Mauzy, Prof. Joseph H. Neville, B. Lee Smith, Bradford Kilby, W. B. Gates, and D. T. Duncan.³⁴

In Nansemond County interest in high school was becoming more evidenced. In 1905 Whaleyville High School was begun. Miss Lucy Manson became the first principal of this two-room school. Growing year by year, this school by 1914 had increased to seven "apartments". In 1915 Miss Manson planned for a brick building, and 1916 saw the erection of a three-story building which was "comfortable, commodious, and commanding". A library, a principal's office an auditorium, and four rooms were included in this building, and there were nine teachers on the faculty.³⁵

The Driver High and Graded School was also a flourishing educational institution during the early 1900's. This school had as its aim "to furnish a good common school secondary education, including a treatment of those studies that fit the industrial life of the community, thus bringing school life and home life into a close relationship--one a practical preparation for the other." Ample attention was given to the study of agriculture,

³⁴School Board Minutes of the City of Suffolk, 1870-1915 Inclusive, passim.

³⁵Virginian-Pilot and Norfolk Landmark, April 10, 1922.

domestic science, and cooking which were correlated with nature study and manual training. The school carefully endeavored to cultivate "a love for the beautiful in nature, literature, architecture, science, and art;" furthermore, the training was "designated to include those habits and virtues that tend to produce desirable citizens." This school boasted of having ample blackboard space, a cabinet of eight charts by Rand-McNally, globes, and maps. There was a well-equipped physics and biology laboratory. In the early 1900's the faculty consisted of J. B. L. DeJarnette as principal, Miss Regina Williamson, Miss Luciphene J. Everett, Miss Lillie M. Everett, and Mrs. J. Carl Wilroy.³⁶

The Holy Neck Graded School, a two-room building, was built in 1907 at a cost of \$1,760.00, and in 1908 a third room was added. The patrons ardently supported this school, for they purchased pictures, a flag, and a piano. They also saw that the grounds were improved and enclosed with a fence.³⁷ The principal was Miss Margaret Walton.³⁸

³⁶Catalog of Driver High & Graded School, 1909-10.

³⁷Ibid.

³⁸Annual Report of Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1904.

CHAPTER VII

PUBLIC EDUCATION IN SUFFOLK, 1910-1956

Having become a separate school district in Nansemond County in 1904, Suffolk in the very next year was considering ways of enlarging its public school facilities.¹ By 1909 the overcrowding in the public schools was attracting considerable public attention. The city council appointed an investigation committee which criticized the schools and emphasized over-crowding. The committee reported that in one classroom fifty students were crowded into a room intended for thirty pupils, and every other classroom was overflowing. They reported that desks were too small, and that in one instance two boys were "cramped so much that they have to sit with their knees on the side and their bodies twisted in front of the desk." Ventilation and heating were reported very poor and sanitary conditions were "in an awful state". There was no plumbing; the students consequently had to drink from buckets using one dipper. As a result of this committee report, the city council had the school improved.²

¹Suffolk News Herald, August 27, 1950.

²Minutes of the School Board of the City of Suffolk, 1870-1915 Inclusive; Minutes of the Suffolk School Board, Book I.

Even though some improvements were made in the existing school of that day, the problem of overcrowding still existed. Realizing that additional school housing was imperative, the school board in 1911 purchased land for the new Thomas Jefferson High School. Construction was immediately begun, and in order to alleviate the crowded school conditions, classrooms in the new building were used before it was completed. At a total cost of \$33,921.00 Thomas Jefferson High School was completed in 1912.³

Shortly after the building of Thomas Jefferson High School the school board resigned en masse because of an argument with the city council concerning a school auditorium. A new board was thus appointed and the matter of building a school auditorium was dropped.⁴

The new high school relieved the overcrowding somewhat, but the elementary school situation still proved unsatisfactory. In 1913 three new elementary schools were built at a cost of \$13,550.00 apiece with each containing eight rooms; John Randolph School and George Mason School were for the white pupils, and Andrew J. Brown School was for the Negro pupils.⁵

³Suffolk News Herald, August 27, 1950.

⁴Ibid. ⁵Ibid.

By 1915 the City of Suffolk felt that it had become sufficiently able to be a separate school division in the state. In this year the first school board was appointed for this new division; this board consisted of J. E. Phillips as chairman, John K. Hutton, W. C. Harroll, R. J. Norfleet, James L. Bell, and G. C. Coulbourne.⁶ In turn the school board appointed in 1917 John E. Martin as its first full-time school superintendent;⁷ Mr. Martin had been principal of the high school previous to his being appointed superintendent.⁸ The school superintendent's report of 1916-17 showed that there were 1,030 white students and 368 colored students enrolled with an average attendance of 990 white students and 320 colored students; there was a total faculty of thirty-six white teachers and nine colored teachers.⁹ During the same year \$30,190.75 was expended on the schools in the city.¹⁰

The new schools had been in use but a few years when in 1916 the people once again began to complain about the overcrowded conditions in the schools. In 1917, in

⁶Minutes of the Suffolk School Board, Book I.

⁷Ibid.

⁸Suffolk News Herald, op. cit.

⁹Minutes of the Suffolk School Board, Book I.

¹⁰Ibid.

order to relieve the crowded conditions, emergency classrooms were erected behind Thomas Jefferson High School; these classrooms came to be known as "chicken coops".¹¹

In the same year of 1917 the first Parent-Teacher Association was formed in the public schools of the city. Mrs. Richard L. Brewer, Jr., organized this association at John Randolph School. In 1918 the George Mason School patrons also organized a Parent-Teacher Association under the leadership of Mrs. John C. Holladay.¹²

By 1922 the school expenditures had grown to \$76,846.27; there was an enrollment of 1,999 students with an average attendance of 1,674 pupils; the faculty had increased to sixty-three teachers.¹³ In this same year once more the people began to complain about overcrowding in the schools. As a result of these complaints, the school board had erected the present Suffolk High School building which was completed in 1923 at a cost of \$163,022.00; the school was built for a capacity of 636 pupils, and it included offices, science laboratories, manual training rooms, a gymnasium and an auditorium, in addition to its

¹¹Suffolk News Herald, op. cit.

¹²Ibid.

¹³Annual Report of Superintendent of Schools, Suffolk, Virginia, 1922-23.

numerous classrooms.¹⁴ The school was built next to the Thomas Jefferson High School (which became Thomas Jefferson Elementary School) on a hill known as "Munte Roy".¹⁵

When Suffolk High School was finished, the "chicken coops" behind Thomas Jefferson Elementary School were moved to Smith Street to relieve the overcrowding of Negro students who were housed in the Andrew J. Brown School and in the Negro Odd Fellows Hall.¹⁶ However, the Negro school population had grown to 660 pupils in 1925, and it became necessary in that year to build Booker T. Washington School consisting of 12 rooms at a total cost of \$50,000.00; it was built on a site next to the Andrew J. Brown School. In the early 1930's four additional rooms were added to this high school.¹⁷

In 1928 a Parent-Teacher Association was formed at Thomas Jefferson Elementary School with Mrs. W. C. Gibson as its first president. This group was determined to be successful, for at its initial meeting Superintendent Martin spoke on the topic "What a League Can Do To Be a Success". This association, like the other local

¹⁴Survey Report of Suffolk Public Schools of 1925.

¹⁵W. E. MacClenny's personal papers.

¹⁶Suffolk News Herald, op. cit.

¹⁷Suffolk News Herald, October, 1942.

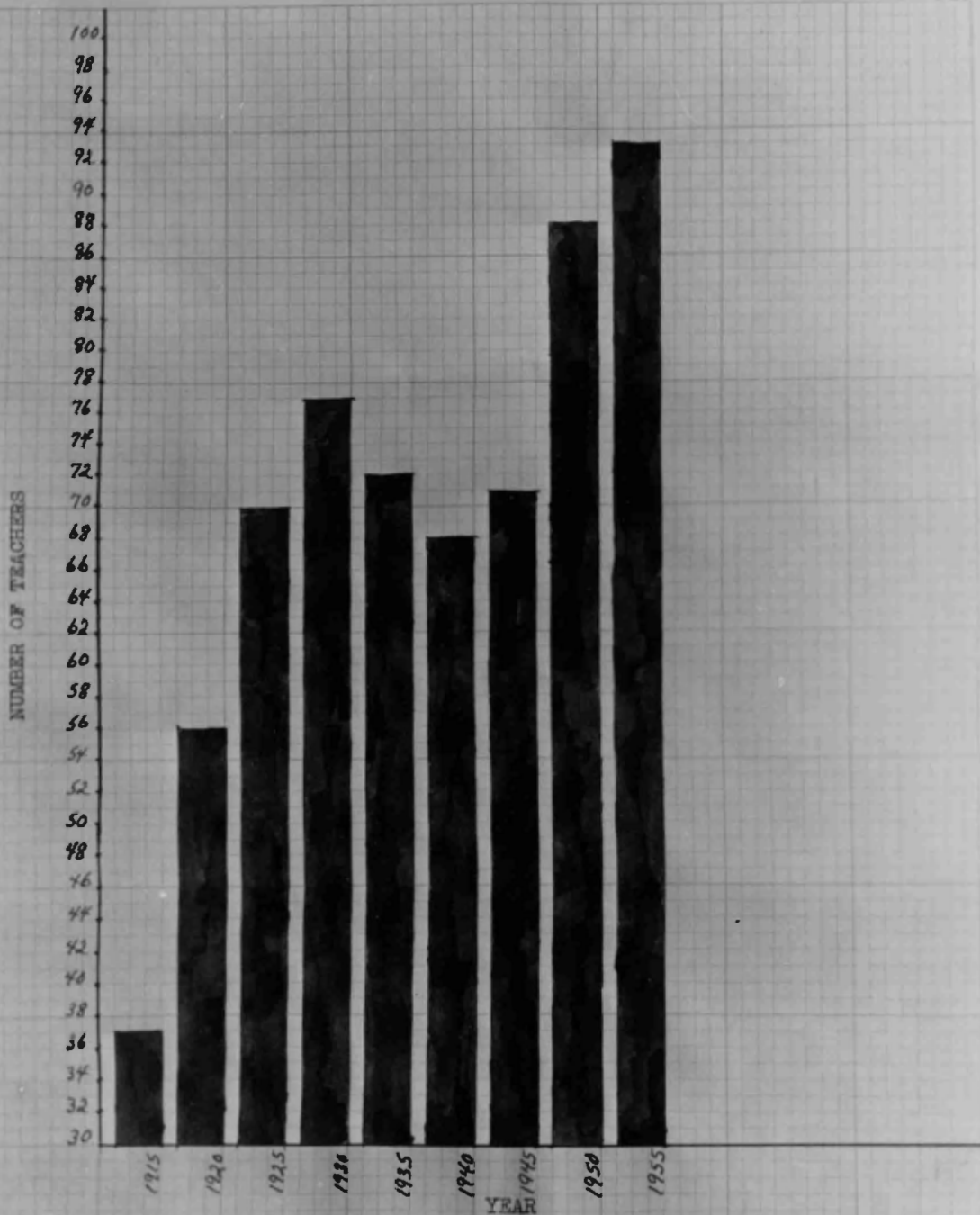


FIGURE 1

FACULTY GROWTH--CITY OF SUFFOLK

THE FREEMAN POST CO.

TEL. 342 5-10 to 10-10

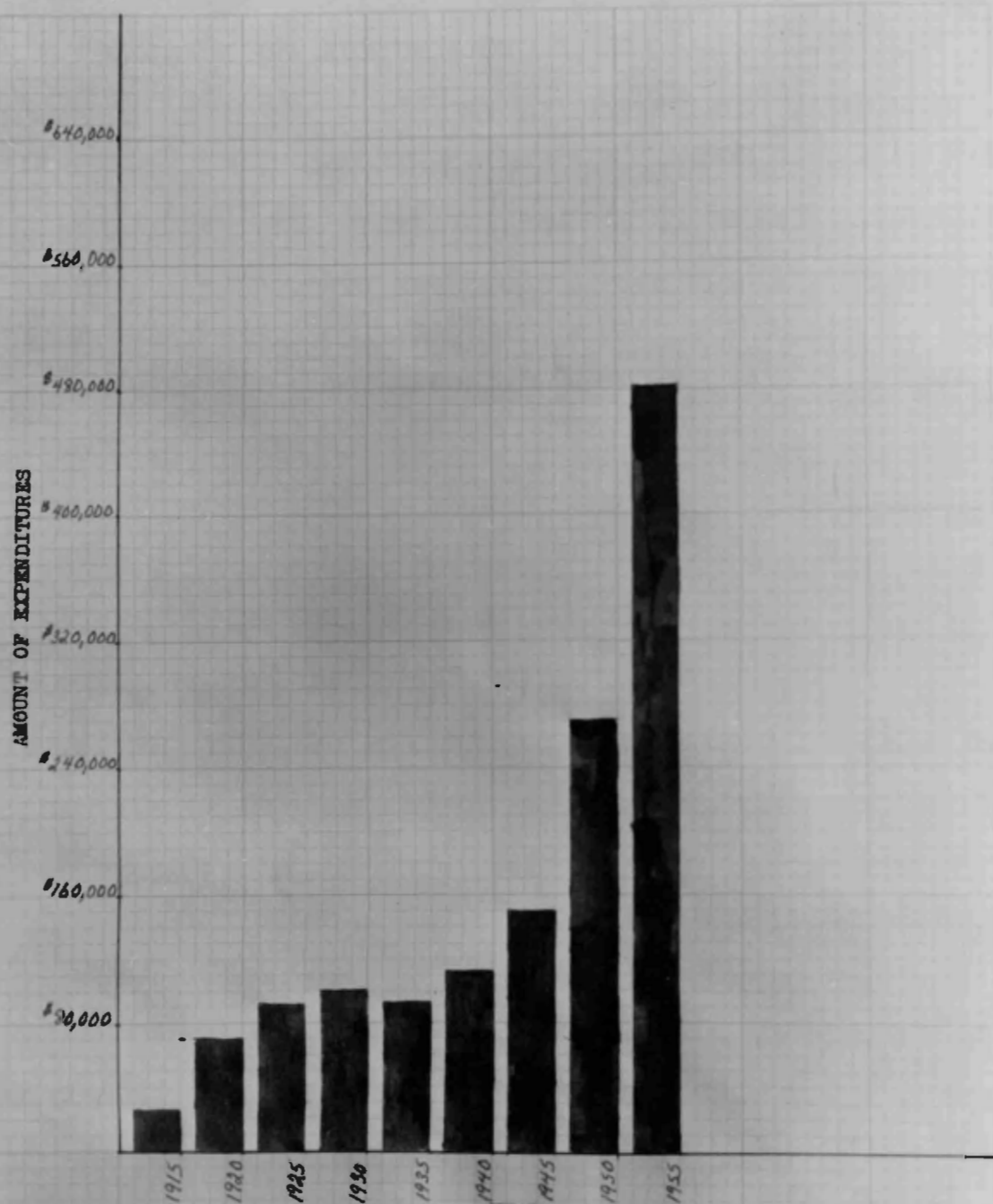
its schools and not decrease its school personnel.²⁰

In November, 1938, local school officials felt a closer relationship was necessary between the high school and the home. As such, a new organization was formed called the Association of Parents, Teachers, and Pupils. This association, a form of the Parent-Teachers Association, was organized by Mr. Francis S. Chase, the high school principal, with the purpose of bringing together parents, teachers, and pupils to help further the educational aims of the high school by utilizing the combined ideas and opinions of these three groups. At its first meeting in January, 1939, Mr. C. S. Godwin was elected president.²¹

In September, 1939, a tragic accident caused the death of Suffolk's beloved school superintendent, Mr. John S. Martin, after twenty-two years of inspiring and progressive leadership in this community. The car in which he and two friends were riding plunged over the side of North Broad Street bridge in the city and caused their untimely deaths. From the time that Mr. Martin became superintendent in 1917 the school budget gradually increased, as Figure 2 shows, and, as has been mentioned, two new high

²⁰Minutes of Suffolk School Board, Book III.

²¹Suffolk News Herald, op. cit.



YEAR
FIGURE 2

SCHOOL EXPENDITURES--CITY OF SUFFOLK

schools were built along with numerous other improvements.

Mr. Martin was followed by Mr. Stanley T. Godbey.²²

During the next decade the school expenditures increased from \$112,493.52 in 1940 to \$221,950.00 in 1948-49. The school population in 1940 was 2,170 pupils, and then through 1948 there was a gradual decline in enrollment due to fewer children being born during the depression years of the 1930's. The next year 1949 the pupils enrolled began increasing again. In this same year of 1949 Superintendent Godby resigned to go to Christiansburg, and he was replaced by Mr. William R. Savage who had been the principal of Suffolk High School since 1943; Mr. Savage remains in the same capacity today.²³

Under Superintendent Savage's administration the school budget has increased from \$249,103.50 in 1949-50 to \$482,732.00 in 1955-56. During these same years a new combination high and elementary school for Negroes has been constructed at a total cost of \$904,974.08; this new school has been named Booker T. Washington High School, and the old Negro schools are called the Andrew J. Brown School and the Andrew J. Brown Annex. It was during the planning of this school that the idea of building a

²²minutes of Suffolk School Board, Book III, passim.

²³Ibid.

combined county and city Negro high school emerged. After a thorough investigation by committees from both the county and the city school boards, the boards decided to abandon this plan, for the Suffolk committee felt that it would be impractical. The Suffolk School Board felt that a disproportionate share of the school operation would fall on the city, while the greater part of the students would come from the county.²⁴ Also during the years that Mr. Savage has been superintendent, the school enrollment has steadily increased, as Figure 3 illustrates.

With a present school budget being almost \$500,000.00, Suffolk has an eye to the future and is endeavoring to provide for its increasing school population with new school construction and increased services. In the immediate future Suffolk is planning a new elementary school of fourteen rooms, a cafeteria for Suffolk High School and Thomas Jefferson School, and numerous improvements in each of its existing buildings.²⁵

This, then, is the educational program of a progressive Tidewater community. The past has been exemplary in Virginia school history, the present is progressive, and the future holds great promise for the people in this

²⁴Ibid. ²⁵Ibid.

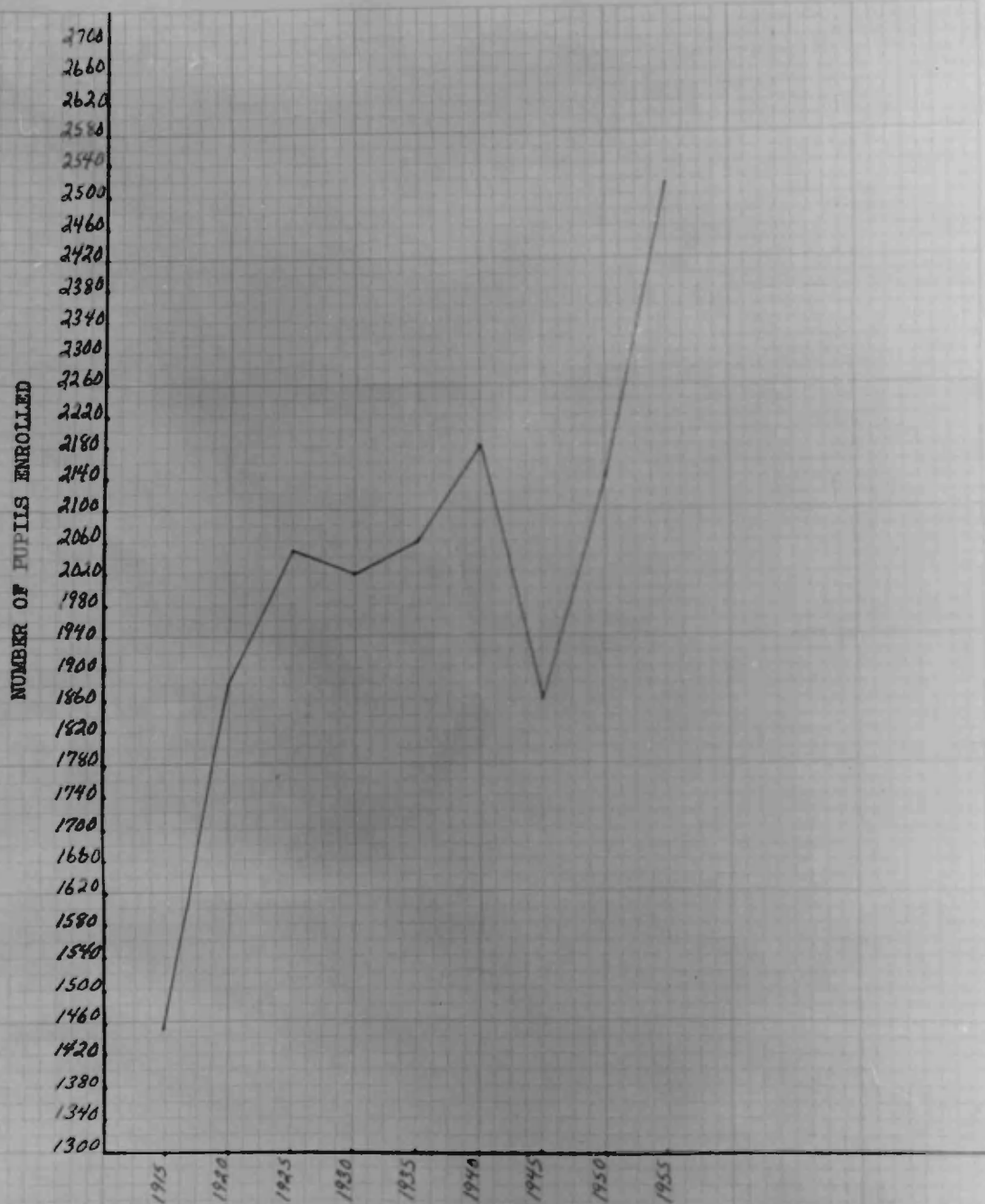


FIGURE 3
PUPIL ENROLLMENT--CITY OF SUFFOLK

THE FREE PRESS-JOURNAL

Nov. 22, 1965

area of the Old Dominion.

CHAPTER VIII

PUBLIC EDUCATION IN NANSEMOND COUNTY, 1909-1956

Nansemond County by the year 1910 was becoming concerned with its crowded school conditions, and, as such, its budget for this year was increased from \$52,299.59 in 1909-10 to \$108,700.00 in 1910-11; the budget remained over a hundred thousand dollars for the next two years in anticipation of new school buildings. In 1912 in Driver (a section of Nansemond County) the DeJarnette High School was erected as an agricultural institution; it was constructed at a cost of \$12,000.00.¹

In 1913 after being superintendent of Nansemond County's schools since 1886, Mr. Lee Britt resigned to accept another position in Nansemond County. He was replaced by Mr. J. B. L. DeJarnette.²

The need for increased high school facilities brought about the erection of a new three-story brick building at Whaleyville in 1914-15 at a cost of \$19,000.00;³ this is the same school that was begun in 1905 with Miss Lucy Mason as principal, as was pointed

¹Annual Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1910-11, 1911-12, 1912-13, 1913-14, passim.

²Ibid., 1913-14, passim.

³Ibid., 1914-15, passim.

out in Chapter VI. Later on in 1922 an addition was made to this school because of increased population and scope of offering.⁴

In 1914 Holland High School was erected at a cost of \$16,000.00 in order to care for the white students in the western part of the county. In 1922 a needed addition was constructed on this school.⁵

With the advent of the year 1915-16 Nansemond County's school population dropped to 4,143 from 5,709 the year before due to Suffolk's becoming a separate school division; \$79,236.52 was the budget for this year.⁶

In 1917 Superintendent DeJarnette, who had been superintendent of both the county and city divisions at the same time, unexpectedly died after four years of service. After Mr. DeJarnette's death, Paul S. Blandford became the acting superintendent until 1920 when R. Moore Williams was named superintendent.⁷ From 1917 to the early 1920's Nansemond County began gradually converting from an eight-year school system to an eleven-year system.⁸

⁴Summary of Public Schools in Nansemond County (in Superintendent White's personal papers).

⁵Superintendent of Public Instruction's Annual Report, 1914-15. ⁶Ibid., 1915-16.

⁷Ibid., 1917-18 and 1919-20.

⁸Notes made during a conversation with Superintendent White.

It was during the decade of the 1920's that considerable construction occurred in the county due to the consolidation of several of the schools. Figure 4 shows that expenditures on schools fluctuated between \$157,843.07 in 1921 to \$348,603.70 in 1925 to \$267,552.23 in 1929; the school population increased until 1925 when it reached 5,480; after this the school enrollment gradually decreased due to a leveling-off trend in population in this section of Virginia.⁹

In 1921 the two-story building at King's Fork was erected.¹⁰ It was at this same time also that the King's Fork P. T. A. was organized, being among the first in the county; at this organizational meeting Mr. W. E. MacClenny made an historical report on education in Nansemond County.¹¹

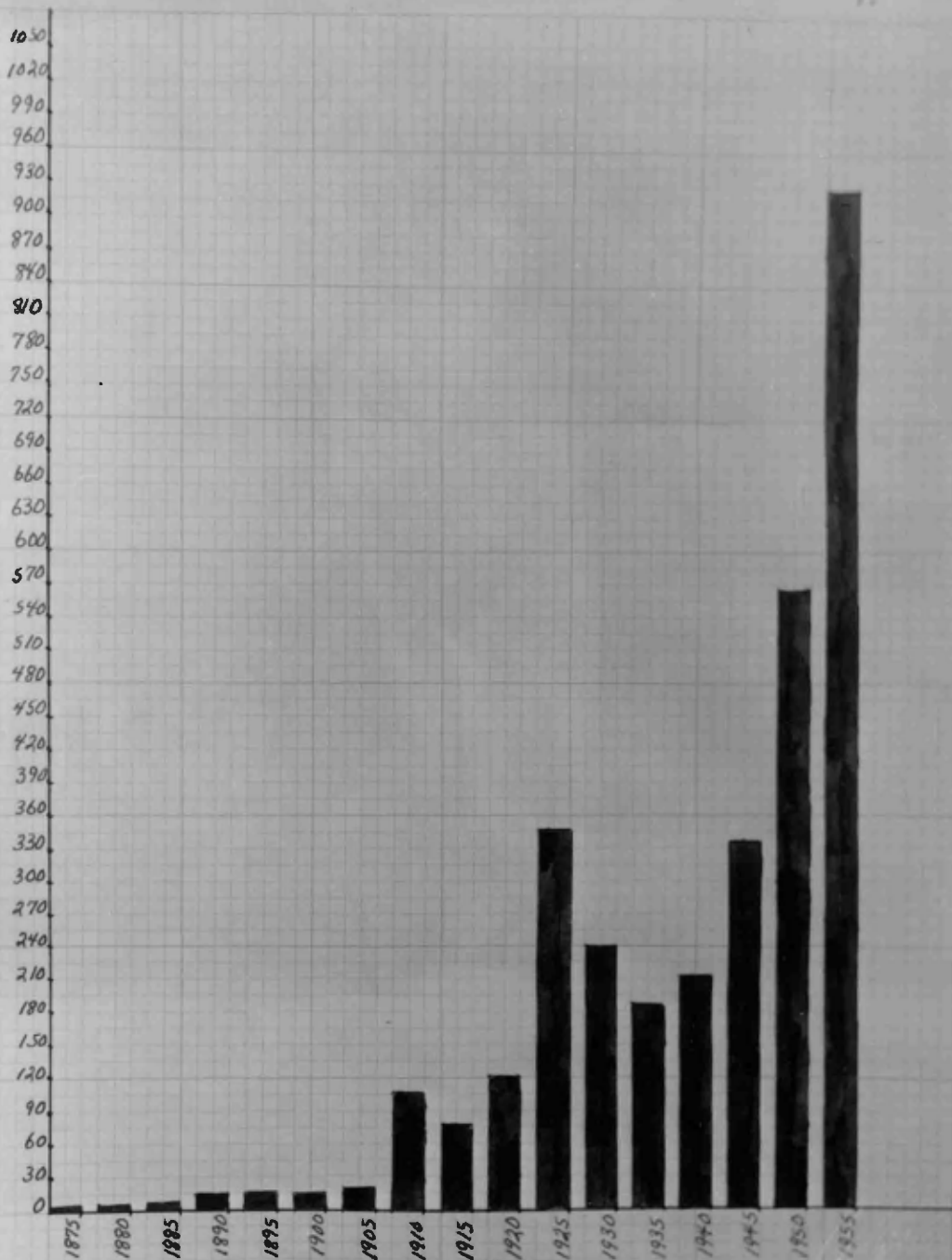
In 1922 school officials of the county thought that consolidation of the separate school boards in each district should be done. Until this year the county had had five school districts with each having its own school board; these districts were Cypress, Chuckatuck, Sleepy Hole, Whaleyville, and Holy Neck. Representatives from

⁹Annual Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1920-1929.

¹⁰Summary of Schools in Nansemond County, op. cit.

¹¹W. E. MacClenny's personal papers.

AMOUNT OF EXPENDITURES IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS



YEAR
FIGURE 4
SCHOOL EXPENDITURES--NANSEMOND COUNTY

each of these districts were chosen to become the first single school board of Hansemond County.¹² In this same year Cypress Chapel School was erected, a new Holland High School replaced the original structure, and an addition was put on Whaleyville High School to care for the increasing school pupils.¹³

By 1924 consolidation of the county schools was complete, and a county training school was erected for the Negro population; the purpose of building a training school was to train the Negro population for occupations in addition to regular scholastic work.¹⁴

The latter part of the 1920's, like the first part of this decade, saw much school construction. In 1926 both the Chuckatuck High School and Chuckatuck Elementary School were built; in this same year the one-room building at King's Fork was also built. In 1926 East Suffolk Elementary School was erected for the Negroes of Hansemond County.¹⁵

During the depression years of the early 1930's the

¹²Notes made during a conversation with Superintendent White.

¹³Summary of Schools in Hansemond County, op. cit.

¹⁴Ibid.

¹⁵Ibid.

school population in the county continued to decrease. In 1933 the enrollment was 5,313 with an average attendance of 4,313; the receipts and expenditures for this same year were \$183,237.76, which is the lowest it has been since that date.¹⁶ It was during this year that H. Moore Williams resigned as superintendent, and he was succeeded by Floy Jenkins, who was superintendent of the schools in the neighboring county of Southampton at the same time.¹⁷ Mr. Jenkins served in this capacity for only one year, and in 1934 Mr. Hugh V. White became superintendent; he still holds the position today.¹⁸

By 1933 it had become apparent that the single Negro high school, which was the County Training School, was inadequate to take care of the Negro school population. In this year a new school for Negroes, the Suffolk Training School, was built. The school was built at a cost of \$36,537.00 and it contained thirteen rooms.¹⁹ In the next year 1939 East Suffolk High School was also built for the Negro population. About this same time an addition was

¹⁶Superintendent of Public Instruction's Annual Report, 1933-34.

¹⁷Notes made during a conversation with Superintendent White. ¹⁸Ibid.

¹⁹Superintendent of Public Instruction's Annual Report, 1938-39.

made to Chuckatuck Elementary School, and in 1941 an addition was put on Chuckatuck High School.²⁰

As can be seen in Figure 5 the school population in Nansemond County has steadily increased except during 1941 when the enrollment fell off slightly. In 1940 the number of pupils enrolled was 5,833 and by 1950 the enrollment had increased to 5,699; today the number of pupils enrolled is approximately 6,800. In 1940 the school expenditures were \$214,716.98; by 1950 the school expenditures had increased to \$564,341.22; and by 1956 the school expenditures had increased to \$1,017,702.50 in the county.²¹ In the last fifteen years the schools in Nansemond County have consolidated even more than they were during the 1920's. There are only three white high schools--Whaleyville High School, Holland High School, and Chuckatuck High School--and three white elementary schools; there are two Negro high schools--East Suffolk High School and the County Training School--and three Negro elementary schools. More than sixty school buses transport both the white and Negro pupils to the various schools which today are valued at

²⁰Notes made during a conversation with Superintendent White.

²¹Superintendent of Public Instruction's Annual Reports, 1940-41, 1950-51, 1955-56.

NUMBER OF PUPILS ENROLLED

6800
6400
6000
5600
5200
4800
4400
4000
3600
3200
2800
2400
2000
1600
1200
800
400
0

1871 1875 1880 1885 1890 1895 1900 1905 1910 1915 1920 1925 1930 1935 1940 1945 1950 1955

YEAR

FIGURE 5
PUPIL ENROLLMENT--WANSBOND COUNTY

THE FREE PRESS, MAY 1956

more than two and one-half million dollars. The faculty, remaining practically the same during the 1940's, has increased today to an all-time high of over two hundred teachers as Figure 6 illustrates. In the past fifteen years, also, vocational and commercial courses have been added to each high school curriculum in addition to numerous scholastic courses which each school already had.²²

The school board of Nansemond County, which now consists of W. W. Jones as chairman, M. T. Plyler, W. T. Brinkley, R. M. Williams, T. V. Smith, and H. V. White as superintendent and clerk of the board, is confronted with the problem of finding more school space at most of its schools. In June, 1956, the people of Nansemond County rejected a referendum by popular vote to consolidate all of the white high schools into one single building. They rejected the proposal of a consolidated high school due to the fact that integration would become a serious problem, for there are approximately twice as many Negroes in the county as whites. The only solution that the school board has found to school overcrowding is to erect within the very near future several temporary structures.²³

²²Notes made during a conversation with Superintendent White.

²³Ibid.

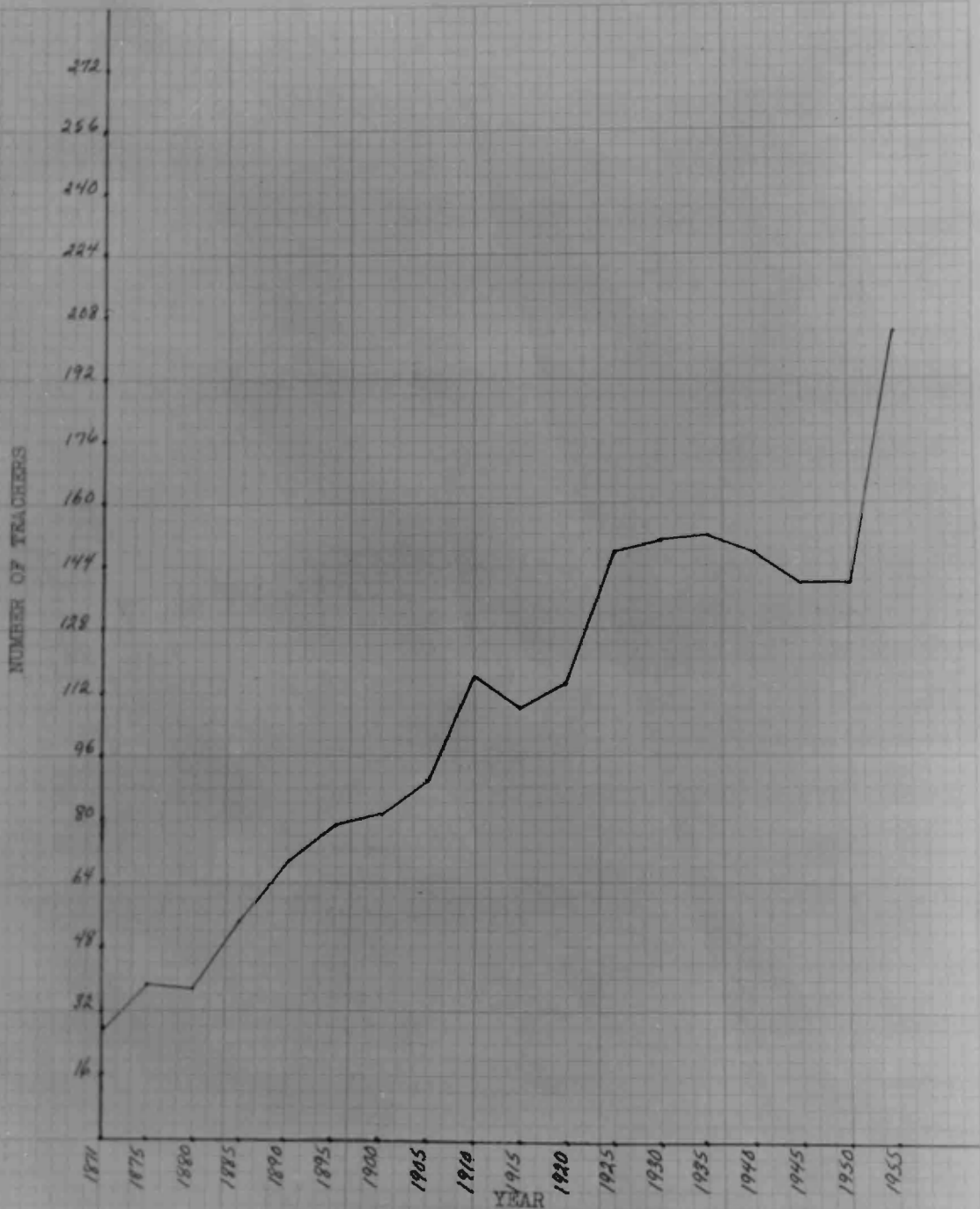


FIGURE 6

FACULTY GROWTH--NANSEMOND COUNTY

THE FREEMAN PRESS CO.

No. 367-848 10-14-55

Nansemond County, like every other school district in Virginia, is a progressive community that wants only the best for its school population. Under the present administration the schools have made tremendous progress, and within the years to come this progress is due to continue. The school board and the people of the county are justly proud of their schools, and as a result the schools are striving avidly to educate their pupils in the democratic ideals on which our country is built.

The foregoing, then, is a brief history of the education of Suffolk and Nansemond County. Education in these two communities has come a long way since the "school for good grade", the poor house school and the early seminaries and academies. The colleges, institutes, and private schools all were forerunners to the present public education and as such they prepared the way for our educational set up today. The history of education in Nansemond County and Suffolk has been a long and industrious story, and the future seems bright and promising. With increased and increasing school population and facilities this section of Virginia will be exemplary in the future as it has been in the past.

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APPENDIX

APPENDIX A

ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING TOWN OF SUFFOLK

I. "Forasmuch, as it hath been represented unto this General Assembly, that great numbers of people have lately settled themselves at and near a place called Constance's Warehouse, on the east side of the Nansemond River, in the county of Nansemond, where the public warehouses are built; which place is healthful, commodious, and convenient, for traders to cohabit in, and bring their goods to: And that in case a town was laid out there, trade and navigation would be greatly encouraged and increased;

II. "Be it enacted, that the Lieutenant-Governor, Council and Burgesses, of this present General Assembly, and it is hereby enacted, by the authority of the same, That within eight months after the passing of this Act, fifty acres of land, parcel of a tract of land, belonging to Jethro Sumner of the said county of Nansemond, to include the warehouses aforesaid; and shall be vested in Lemuel Riddick, William Baker, William Wright, Edward Wright, John Gregory, Mills Riddick, and Edward Norfleet (...) who are hereby directors and trustees, for designing building, carrying on, and maintaining a town on said land."

The trustees were to parcel out and sell land and have public buildings built. If a person bought a plot of land, he had to build on that land within eight months time or the trustees and directors of the town could take the land away from him. This act concluded with the following statement: "And the name of the town shall be Suffolk."¹

¹ The Statutes at Large; Being a Collection of All the Laws of Virginia from the First Session of the Legislature in 1619 by William W. Hening. Volume V. Richmond: The Franklin Press, 1819.

APPENDIX B
Virginia School Commissioners' Reports--1824-1852
Nansemond County¹

YEAR	NUMBER OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS	NUMBER OF POOR CHILD- REN IN COUNTY	NUMBER OF POOR SENT TO SCHOOL	AGGREGATE DAYS ATTENDANCE	RATE OF TUITION PER DAY	AVERAGE AMOUNT PAID FOR EACH CHILD ALL EXPENSES	EXPENDITURES FOR TUITION AND ALL OTHER EXPENSES
1824-25	16	73	28	-----	--	\$16.50	\$240.00
1826-27	16	75	46	-----	--	10.00	436.30
1827-28	15	85	45	-----	--	15.00	678.28
1828-29	15	100	45	-----	--	15.00	486.95
1829-30	15	80	45	-----	--	11.00	252.45
1830-31	15	80	45	-----	--	4.00	339.79
1831-32	15	150	111	8,049	4-1/3¢	3.53	391.85
1832-33	15	150	68	7,237	4¢	4.48	302.71
1833-34	11	150	66	5,373	4¢	3.60	238.51
1834-35	15	---	99	9,897	4¢	4.44	438.97
1836-37	15	---	89	7,873	4¢	-----	340.54
1837-38	10	---	71	6,686	4¢	-----	294.50
1838-39	11	---	84	6,288	4¢	-----	272.47
1839-40	20	150	114	11,313	4¢	-----	491.97
1840-41	20	250	131	12,789	4¢	-----	555.38
1841-42	19	430	114	11,734	4¢	-----	515.34
1842-43	--	---	---	-----	--	-----	-----
1843-44	18	400	81	7,829	5¢	-----	428.40
1844-45	16	360	95	6,372	5¢	-----	349.51
1848-49	21	350	115	9,165	5¢	-----	506.61
1849-50	19	350	108	8,978	5¢	-----	489.30
1851-52	9	472	113	6,850	4¢	-----	328.63

¹Journals of the House of Delegates of Virginia, 1824-1825, Document No. 4.

APPENDIX C

Mayors of the Town and City of Suffolk, Virginia.¹

Richard L. Brewer, Sr.	1852-56
Thomas L. Shepherd	1856-58
John G. Pinner	1858-60
Benjamin Riddick	1860-62

(There was no active mayor during and succeeding the War between the States due to the fact that the town was under military governors.)

Colonel A. J. McNutt	1869-71
Columbus W. Lassiter	1871-72
Thomas G. Elam	1872-73
Colonel John R. Copeland	1873-74
Nathaniel Riddick	1874-75

(Due to absence of accurate records, the names of mayors from 1875 to 1880 are not available.)

Benjamin Riddick	1880-83
Robert B. Prentiss	1883-85
E. E. Holland	1885-87
Benjamin Riddick	1887-89
John B. Pinner	1889-91
Richard L. Brewer, Jr.	1891-1903
Adolphus E. Eley	1903-05
Bradford Kilby	1905-07
John B. Norfleet	1907-11

J. E. B. Holladay	1911-15
Moody E. Stallings	1915-19
Joseph H. Macleary	1919-26
Thomas H. Birdsong	1926-33
Ottis S. Smith, Jr.	1933-35
Jack W. Nurney	1935-41
Bayard O. Hill	1941-47
J. C. West, III	1947-49
W. F. Whitley	1949-51
Richard L. Woodward, Jr.	1951-55
W. P. Griffin	1955-

1Suffolk News-Herald, October, 1942, and Minutes
of the Council of the Town and City of Suffolk, 1953-1956.

APPENDIX D

SUPERINTENDENTS OF HANSEMOND COUNTY'S AND SUFFOLK'S
PUBLIC SCHOOLSSuperintendents of Hansemond County Schools.¹

Richard L. Brewer, Sr. (1870-1882)

Virginus S. Milby (1882-1886)

Lee Britt (1886-1913)

J. B. L. DeJarnette (1913-1917)

Paul S. Blandford (acting superintendent, 1917-1920)

R. Moore Williams (1920-1933)

Floyd Jenkins (superintendent of both Southampton County's
and Hansemond County's schools, 1933-1934)

Hugh V. White (1934-)

Superintendents of Suffolk City Schools.²J. B. L. DeJarnette (1915-1917, superintendent of both
city and county schools)John E. Martin (1917-1939, Suffolk's first full-time
superintendent)James L. Bell (acting superintendent for Mr. Martin dur-
ing the months he served in the armed
forces in World War I, 1917-1918)

Stanley T. Godbey (1939-1949)

William R. Savage (1949-)

¹Superintendent of Public Instructions' Annual Re-
ports, 1871-1956.

²Minutes of the Suffolk School Board--Books I, II,
and III.

Teachers Employed in Suffolk--1870--1915.¹

Miss Fannie D. Sumner	1870-1875
Mrs. Elizabeth A. Christie	1870-1887
Miss Mary A. Brennan	1870-1881
Miss Laura P. Thayer	1870-1872
Mrs. Kate McGuire	1872-1880
W. H. Lee	1873-1874
Miss Martha A. Bonnewell	1874-1875
Miss M. A. Andrew	1874-1875
Miss Eleanor Parker	1876-1877
Miss Margaret A. Cook	1877-1879
Miss Willeana Cook	1877-1878
Miss Kate E. Whitehead	1880-1881
Miss Ellen Parker	1880-1881
Miss Sally Davis	1880-1884
Miss Georgia Carter	1882-1883
W. G. Boggs	1883-1884
Edward Holland	1883-1888
R. N. Bond	1884-1885
N. B. Hayden	1885-1886
R. C. Hall	1886-1888
Manson Williams	1887-1888
Prof. Rowland Doggett	1888-1891
Miss Susie Prentiss	1888-1904
Miss Emma L. Gay	1888-1889
Miss Rosa Hurst	1889-1890
Prof. P. St. Julien Wilson	1891-1898
Miss Lizzie P. Britt	1891-1921
Andrew J. Brown	1892-1931
Miss Mary Collins	1892-1893
Miss Ella Beale	1893-1914
Miss Willie Harrell	1893-1905
Miss Mary Scott	1893-1903
Miss Margaret Cutchins	1895-1903
Miss Daisy Nurney	1896-1912
Miss Virginia Lee	1897-1900
W. C. Morton	1897-1901
Miss Hulda Eggleston	1898-1900
Miss Mary Virginia Matics	1900-1903
Miss Annie Vick	1900-1916
Miss Mamie Scott	1900-1903
Prof. J. P. Mauzy	1901-1902
Prof. Joseph H. Neville	1902-1903
B. Lee Smith	1903-1903
Miss Marie Woodward	1903-1910
Miss Mary Delk	1903-1912
Fletcher Howell	1903-1909 (?)
Miss Jean Daughtrey	1903-1908 (?)
Miss Elsie Urquhart	1903-1907
Bradford Kilby	1903-1904
Miss Annie S. Fulgham	1904-1905
Miss Mae Bailey	1904-1936
W. B. Gates	1904-1907
Miss Olive Brooks	1904-1905
Miss Margaret Parker	1905-1907
Miss Izzie Parker	1905-1907
Miss Minnie Derieux	1905-1906

Miss Lillian Turner	1906-1908
Miss Pauline Roberts	1906-1908
Miss Mary Huston Turk	1906-1908
Miss Josephine Bynum	1906-1940
Miss Helen Hunter	1906-1912
Miss Dora Britt	1906-1912
Miss Mary Daniel	1907-1908
C. Brown Kirk	1907-1908
Prof. D. T. Duncan	1908-1916
Miss Goldie Anderson	1908-1910 (?)
Miss Harriette Billings	1908-1910 (?)
Miss Teleza Smith Miller	1908-1913
Miss Nettie Parker	1908-1913 (?)
Miss Eunice Langston	1908-1911
Miss Mattie Brandon	1908-1910
Miss Elizabeth Butts	1908-1916
Miss Laura Butts	1908-1916
Miss Nannie Birdsong	1908-1939
Miss Ellen White	1910-1911
Miss Caroline Boykins	1910-1914
Miss Mildred Nurney	1910-1911
Miss Laura Twitty	1910-1915
E. C. White	1910-1911
Miss Etta Morrison	1911-1919
Miss Evelyn Hill	1911-1914
Miss Addie Boomer	1911-1914
Miss Laura Bond	1911-1918
Miss Helen Cobb	1911-1913
Prof. J. W. Roberts	1911-1912 (?)
Miss Essie Hurff	1912-1924
Miss Louise Kendrick	1912-(still teaching)
Miss Ruth Whedbee	1912-1915
Miss Mary Lloyd	1912-1919
Miss Bettie Ball	1912-1913
Miss Julia Cross	1913-1914
Miss Irma Hurff	1913-1942
Miss Eunice Langston	1913-1935
Miss Mary Shepherd	1914-1919
Miss Phoebe Artman	1913-1914
Miss Platt	1914-1915
Miss Margaret Parker	1914-1917
Miss Mary Alson	1914-1915
Randolph Graham	1915-1917
Miss Blance Briggs	1915-1919
Miss Temple B. Kilby	1915-1917
Miss Pearl Jackson	1915-1934
Miss Helen Jordan	1915-1919
Ethel Lassiter	1915-1916
Miss Gladys Parker	1915-1917
W. L. Williams	1915-1916
Miss Frances Lee	1915-1916
Miss Inez Baines	1915-1916
Miss Pearl C. Motley	1915-1916

APPENDIX F

School Board Members--City of Suffolk.¹

Capt. Exam B. Britt	1869-1904
John R. Kilby	1869-1872
William D. McClenny	1869-1872
Joseph P. Webb	1872-1893
Benjamin F. Cutchin	1872-1903
Dr. A. W. Eley	1893-1915
Bradford Kilby	1903-1904
T. W. Artman	1904-1912
William Briggs	1905-1908
Richard L. Brewer, Jr.	1908-1912
H. B. Cross	1912-1915
H. R. Withers	1912-1915
Dr. William Gibson	1912-1915
A. V. Sturgeon	1912-1915
Charles F. Taylor	1912-1915
Dr. J. E. Phillips	1915-1917
John K. Hutton	1915-1918
W. C. Harrell	1915-1918
R. J. Norfleet	1915-1918
G. G. Coulbourne	1915-1933
J. C. West, Jr.	1917-1936
H. B. Cross	1917-1924
J. W. Simmons	1918-1919
T. H. Debnam	1918-1920
John B. Taylor	1919-1943
W. S. Beamon	1920-1936
Dr. J. E. Rawls	1924-1938
J. Melvin Lovelace	1936-1937
M. A. Cross	1936-1939
W. P. Lipscomb	1936-1937
J. D. McClenny	1936-1939
Dr. O. R. Yates	1937-1947
Mrs. S. B. Carter	1937-1956
G. Aubert Nimmo	1939-1943
*Edwin T. Coulbourn	1940-
F. Whitney Godwin	1943-1948
Robert N. Baker	1947-1956
Dr. J. Roland Ellison	1947-1948
*Dudley N. Rollings	1945-
Harvard Birdsong	1945-1946
Rawles Woodward	1948-1954
William H. Reid	1954-1956
*William P. Vaden	1954-
*Kernalt Kelley	1956-
*Mrs. William Birdsong	1956-
*James E. Parker	1957-

*Indicates present school board members.

¹Minutes of the School Board of the City of Suffolk, 1870-1915 Inclusive; Minutes of the Suffolk School Board--Books I, II, and III, 1915-1957.

APPENDIX G

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

	Receipts	Expenditures
1873	7,033.45	\$ 5,236.98
1874	7,073.08	6,010.98
1875	6,187.44	5,063.85
1876	6,699.59	6,237.96
1877	4,437.82	3,935.20
1878	3,976.93	3,032.95
1879	3,024.24	2,649.49
1880	6,737.59	6,168.46
1881	7,189.78	6,462.98
1882	7,877.68	7,418.02
1883	8,940.30	8,478.39
1884	9,003.40	8,337.33
1885	10,175.43	8,996.28
1886	11,244.42	9,972.85
1887	14,890.59	11,569.87
1888	14,952.31	12,036.17
1889	16,593.50	12,789.80
1890	17,510.59	14,595.65
1891	17,417.29	13,552.42
1892	18,774.23	15,399.78
1893	18,657.40	15,503.23
1894	27,111.70	25,029.15
1895	17,870.14	16,530.04
1896	17,891.74	15,515.79
1897	18,583.53	15,978.24
1898	19,820.10	16,030.87
1899	20,576.12	17,054.82
1900	20,358.01	14,593.61
1901	22,360.75	18,838.55
1902	22,796.36	20,802.62
1903	22,246.74	19,547.88
1904	24,106.57	20,151.84
1905	25,872.63	22,178.52
1906	35,641.93	27,638.53
1907	48,942.34	38,589.17
1908	40,415.66	40,372.57
1909	52,299.59	52,299.59
1910	108,700.17	108,700.17
1911	131,230.67	131,230.67
1912	109,546.38	109,546.38
1913	70,124.43	70,124.43

	Receipts	Expenditures
1914	80,861.26	80,861.26
1915	79,236.52	79,236.52
1916	73,672.66	73,672.66
1917	--- --	--- --
1918	93,129.39	93,129.39
1919	114,109.29	114,109.29
1920	122,687.25	122,687.25
1921	157,843.07	157,843.07
1922	160,679.63	160,679.63
1923	305,395.17	305,395.17
1924	256,738.77	256,738.77
1925	348,603.70	348,603.70
1926	274,822.54	274,822.54
1927	213,990.68	213,990.68
1928	253,689.88	253,689.88
1929	267,552.23	267,552.23
1930	240,795.92	240,795.92
1931	212,339.72	212,339.72
1932	186,428.71	186,428.71
1933	163,207.76	163,207.76
1934	178,286.57	178,286.57
1935	188,353.97	188,353.97
1936	198,360.63	198,360.63
1937	214,286.91	214,286.91
1938	254,252.51	254,252.51
1939	219,462.48	219,462.48
1940	214,716.98	214,716.98
1941	228,518.91	228,518.91
1942	279,145.35	279,145.35
1943	284,161.34	284,161.34
1944	302,531.48	302,531.48
1945	339,785.96	339,785.96
1946	467,856.55	467,856.55
1947	455,143.27	455,143.27
1948	471,996.79	471,996.79
1949	522,257.59	522,257.59
1950	564,341.22	564,341.22
1951	710,164.18	710,164.18
1952	605,036.11	605,036.11
1953	808,710.53	808,710.53
1954	927,699.61	927,699.61
1955	927,699.61	927,699.61
1956	1,017,702.50	1,017,702.50

APPENDIX H

ENROLLMENT AND AVERAGE ATTENDANCE FOR WHITE AND
 COLORED STUDENTS IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
 OF NANSEMOND COUNTY

YEAR ENDING JUNE	ENROLLMENT			AVERAGE ATTENDANCE		
	WHITE	COLORED	TOTAL	WHITE	COLORED	TOTAL
1871	578	213	791	431	138	569
1872	933	373	1306	670	237	907
1873	774	432	1206	542	290	832
1874	872	462	1334	637	319	956
1875	858	429	1287	795	394	1189
1876	995	672	1667	709	452	1161
1877	850	695	1545	601	458	1059
1878	917	572	1489	663	383	1046
1879	76	106	182	63	72	135
1880	798	722	1520	549	416	965
1881	966	963	1929	582	524	1106
1882	1305	890	2195	595	484	1074
1883	1380	1045	2425	684	576	1260
1884	1200	1230	2430	620	658	1278
1885	1297	1290	2587	717	690	1407
1886	1262	1409	2671	751	690	1441
1887	1427	1327	2774	895	621	1516
1888	1323	1416	2739	762	735	1497
1889	1544	1662	3206	922	899	1821
1890	1498	1750	3248	900	879	1779
1891	1604	1746	3350	932	872	1804
1892	1556	1572	3128	878	766	1644
1893	1690	1570	3260	1019	819	1838
1894	1847	1662	3509	1104	872	1976
1895	1763	1750	3513	1037	840	1877
1896	1914	1723	3637	1165	901	2066
1897	1877	1703	3580	1124	889	2013
1898	1951	1789	3740	1201	993	2194
1899	1950	1620	3570	1143	758	1901
1900	1877	1599	3476	1095	620	1715
1901	2145	1927	4072	1240	954	2192
1902	2211	1916	4127	1301	996	2297
1903	2142	1908	4050	1331	1005	2336
1904	2101	1903	4004	1264	999	2263
1905	2112	1718	3830	1282	884	2166
1906	2188	2107	4295	1366	1108	2474
1907	2123	2214	4437	1397	1187	2544

YEAR ENDING JUNE	ENROLLMENT			AVERAGE ATTENDANCE		
	WHITE	COLORED	TOTAL	WHITE	COLORED	TOTAL
1908	2341	2122	4463	1532	1263	2795
1909	2388	2247	4635	1581	1415	1916
1910	2483	2302	4785	1775	1290	2865
1911	2548	2297	4845	1659	1229	2888
1912	2561	2637	5198	1811	1526	3337
1913	1756	2299	4155	1133	1418	2551
1914	1606	2329	3935	1123	1324	2447
1915	2148	3561	5709	1265	1570	2835
1916	1693	2450	4143	1388	1946	3234
1917	1720	2314	4034	1201	1506	2707
1918	1647	2270	3917	1002	1419	2421
1919	1812	2510	4312	1265	1570	2835
1920	1668	3269	4937	1265	1570	2835
1921	1769	2712	4481	1308	2134	3442
1922	1797	3144	4941	1362	1712	3074
1923	1896	3237	5123	1638	2472	4110
1924	1911	3520	5431	1660	2455	4115
1925	1953	3527	5480	1715	2609	4324
1926	1888	3427	5315	1487	2717	4104
1927	1927	3397	5324	1489	2405	3894
1928	1950	3304	5254	1548	2336	3884
1929	1901	3345	5246	1491	2417	3908
1930	1929	3584	5513	1584	2539	4123
1931	1908	3556	5464	1602	2640	4242
1932	1928	3398	5326	1635	2581	4216
1933	1832	3483	5315	1576	2739	4315
1934	1777	3661	5438	1563	2896	4459
1935	1721	3625	5346	1541	2859	4400
1936	1742	3410	5152	1501	2737	4238
1937	1693	3330	5023	1479	2755	4334
1938	1601	3274	4875	1501	2974	4475
1939	1690	3414	5104	1475	2918	4393
1940	1697	3536	5233	1416	2905	4321
1941	1717	3261	4978	1420	2824	4244
1942	1767	3181	4948	1421	2750	4171
1943	1640	3376	5016	1315	2892	4207
1944	1656	3394	5050	1321	2993	4314
1945	1665	3549	5215	1325	3107	4432
1946	1677	3583	5260	1371	3106	4477
1947	1690	3545	5235	1414	3090	4504
1948	1746	3646	5392	1464	3195	4659
1949	1867	3742	5609	1552	3287	4839
1950	1922	3777	5699	1590	3319	4909
1951	2008	3852	5860	1661	3368	5029
1952	2099	4035	6134	1771	3546	5317
1953	2286	4429	6715	1863	3747	5610
1954	2170	4184	6354	1961	3941	5902
1955	2126	4236	6362	1961	3941	5902
1956	2176	4310	6486	2029	4050	6079

APPENDIX I

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS
IN CITY OF SUFFOLK

	Receipts	Expenditures
1914-15	23,468.99	23,468.99
1915-16	27,444.65	27,444.65
1916-17	30,190.75	30,190.75
1917-18	42,971.61	42,971.61
1918-19	42,117.05	42,117.05
1919-20	52,027.50	52,027.50
1920-21	70,100.00	70,100.00
1921-22	75,497.72	75,497.72
1922-23	76,846.27	76,846.27
1923-24	86,449.52	86,449.52
1924-25	138,504.17	138,504.17
1925-26	92,249.83	92,249.83
1926-27	97,004.93	97,004.93
1927-28	97,119.18	97,119.18
1928-29	101,977.50	101,977.50
1929-30	100,828.14	100,828.14
1930-31	100,297.26	100,297.26
1931-32	101,868.16	101,868.16
1932-33	91,506.10	91,506.10
1933-34	78,370.00	78,370.00
1934-35	95,136.08	95,136.08
1935-36	93,587.45	93,587.45
1936-37	98,262.44	98,262.44
1937-38	110,416.97	110,416.97
1938-39	108,732.96	108,732.96
1939-40	110,361.05	110,361.05
1940-41	112,493.52	112,493.52
1941-42	119,771.23	119,771.23
1942-43	124,260.66	124,260.66
1943-44	130,610.50	130,610.50
1944-45	139,543.36	139,543.36
1945-46	150,332.66	150,332.66
1946-47	175,104.33	175,104.33
1947-48	206,881.00	206,881.00
1948-49	221,950.00	221,950.00
1949-50	249,103.50	249,103.50
1950-51	270,225.00	270,225.00
1951-52	298,696.00	298,696.00
1952-53	356,752.00	356,752.00
1953-54	417,005.00	417,005.00
1954-55	447,938.00	447,938.00
1955-56	482,732.00	482,732.00

APPENDIX J

ENROLLMENT AND ATTENDANCE FOR WHITE AND
COLORED STUDENTS IN SUFFOLK

YEAR ENDING JUNE	ENROLLMENT			AVERAGE ATTENDANCE		
	WHITE	COLORED	TOTAL	WHITE	COLORED	TOTAL
1915	970	416	1385	866	288	1164
1916	1100	350	1450	920	330	1250
1917	1030	366	1396	990	320	1310
1918	1090	486	1576	978	428	1406
1919	1176	519	1695	884	338	1322
1920	1216	558	1774	1154	382	1536
1921	1257	624	1881	1140	447	1587
1922	1300	543	1483	1227	397	1624
1923	1345	654	1999	1169	505	1674
1924	1307	635	1942	1176	501	1677
1925	1338	641	1979	1214	502	1716
1926	1388	660	2048	1289	609	1898
1927	1402	705	2107	867	953	1920
1928	1353	689	2042	1224	580	1804
1929	1315	722	2037	1217	612	1829
1930	1307	719	2026	1241	603	1844
1931	1317	704	2121	1288	536	1824
1932	1321	674	1995	1255	617	1872
1933	1386	652	2038	1223	555	1778
1934	1446	679	2125	1271	617	1888
1935	1408	705	2125	1287	590	1877
1936	1387	674	2061	1266	583	1849
1937	1411	670	2081	1292	590	1882
1938	1375	648	2023	1241	566	1807
1939	1337	655	1992	1225	612	1837
1940	1303	777	2170	1221	642	1853
1941	1382	791	2173	1211	655	1875
1942	1372	775	2147	1134	642	1775
1943	1270	755	2025	1070	617	1689
1944	1171	629	1800	1014	558	1572
1945	1182	675	1857	1037	602	1639
1946	1181	680	1861	1025	590	1615
1947	1167	708	1875	1024	641	1665
1948	1152	733	1885	1051	655	1706
1949	1194	773	1967	1059	684	1743
1950	1245	811	2056	1122	735	1857
1951	1295	844	2139	1179	744	2023
1952	1371	829	2200	1222	725	1947
1953	1440	807	2247	1270	725	1995
1954	1501	876	2377	1352	777	2129
1955	1552	890	2442	1392	771	2165
1956	1601	911	2512	1411	820	2231

APPENDIX K

ORDINANCE MAKING SUFFOLK A SINGLE SCHOOL

DISTRICT IN NANSEMOND COUNTY

At a special meeting of the Town Council held on July 8, 1904, the following ordinance was adopted:¹

"Be it ordained, That the town of Suffolk be, and the same is hereby constituted a single school district of and within the county of Nansemond, in the state of Virginia, and that the bounds of said school district be the corporate bounds of the said town.

"The said Council shall have the power to appoint three school trustees to serve one, two, and three years, respectively, and annually thereafter it shall appoint a school trustee for said district to serve for three years. The said Council shall fill vacancies occurring within a regular term, for the unexpired part thereof.

"The said school district shall be known as Suffolk School District, and the trustees appointed shall constitute the Suffolk School Board, and be vested with all powers and duties in such case made and provided by the State Board of Education and the statute laws of the state of Virginia."

¹Chapter and Ordinances of the Town of Suffolk, Virginia--1907.

APPENDIX L

COURSE OF STUDY FOR DRIVER HIGH AND AGRICULTURAL
SCHOOL, 1909-10¹

The Course of Study for the high school department in 1909-10 was two-fold: (1) the regular course and (2) the agricultural course. Once a person started in one of the courses, there could be no change. If a pupil successfully completed the seventh grade, he was automatically put in the first year of high school. A person coming from any other system had to be examined by the principal before he could enter into the high school.

The REGULAR COURSE included the following:

Mathematics	four years
English	four years
Latin	four years
Science	four years
History	four years
Arithmetic	one year
French or German	two years
Spelling	two years

The AGRICULTURAL COURSE included the following:

Mathematics	four years
English	four years
Science	four years
History	four years
Spelling	two years
Bookkeeping	one year
French or German	two years
Agricultural Chemistry	one year
Diseases of Animals	one year
Arithmetic	one year
Farming Arithmetic	one year

In both course the periods for each subject were thirty minutes a day apiece except for spelling, which was only fifteen minutes long.

The girls could take Household Arts (Homemaking) in the place of Agricultural Chemistry.

¹Driver High and Graded School Catalog.

APPENDIX M

THE COURSE OF STUDY FOR NANSIMOND COUNTY'S

PRIMARY AND GRAMMAR SCHOOLS, 1909-10

First grade: "Conversations based on daily events in home and school life, birds, pictures, etc., memorizations of Mother Goose Rhymes, and other short poems. Drills to help overcome incorrect forms of speech. Stories told by teacher and reproduced by children. Spelling and word study. Simple words and sentences imitated. Phonics introduced as an aid to correct pronunciations. Daily drills in phonetic blend. (Language) Reading taught by the Phonic and Word or Sentence method. The textbooks were (1) Playmates Primer, Craike's "BowWos and Mew Mew", Haliburton's Graded Classics--First Reader. (Reading) Myth's Fables, Fairy Stories, Hero Stories, History Stories, and Bible read and told to the children. (Reading) Exercises with objects. Counting objects in school room. Exercise in the separation and combination of numbers to ten or twelve--every fact of a number being well mastered before another number is taken up. These facts are developed, first, by the teacher with blocks, afterwards, reproduced by the children with splints. Exercises in the use of terms one half, one third, one fourth. Exercises in measuring, using the inch foot rule and yard stick. Teaching money value, playing, buying and selling. Exercises in learning the forms of the square, oblong, circle and triangle. The horizontal and oblique line. The right, acute and obtuse angles. Reading figures through hundreds so as to be able to find pages in books. Reading Roman numerals to twelve, county by fives and tens to a hundred. (Arithmetic) Paper folding and free cutting to illustrate stories. Form study. Single weaving in paper and yarn, course sewing. (Manual Training) Lessons on hills, valleys, ridges, on brooks, ponds, springs, rills and gulleys. Observations of sunrise and sunset; lengthening of day; teaching names of months and seasons; lessons on dew or frost, rain or snow, budding and leafing trees, ripening and gathering of fruits in fall and coming forth into butterflies in spring; stories told about children of other lands. (Geography and Nature Study) Words and sentences copied; free large movements encouraged; unruled paper used; simple dictation. (Writing)

Second Grade: (Language) Oral work in first grade continued. Reading lessons reproduced. Written work: use of capitals, commas, interrogation points and quotation marks. Words from reading studied as spelling. The book used was Sheppe's Word Studies No. 1, in the hands of pupils. Parts I and II. (Reading) Aims--Power to get thought by silent reading, ability to express the thought by natural tones. Knowledge of Phonics which will aid in clear enunciation and correct pronunciation, appreciation, of what is good and beautiful in the story of Poems. The text was Ward's First Reader, Halliburton's Graded Classics, Second Reader, Holbrook's "Hiawatha Primer", "Grime's Fairy Tales". (Literature) Continuation of First Grade Work. (Arithmetic) Work of the first grade reviewed. The separation and combination of numbers extending to twenty. Reading number through thousands place, number being emphasized. The fractions $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{5}$, $\frac{1}{6}$, $\frac{1}{7}$, $\frac{1}{8}$, $\frac{1}{9}$, $\frac{1}{10}$ and the arithmetic signs of division, addition, subtraction, multiplication, and equivalents learned and used in written work with numbers to twenty. (Manual Training) Construction of various baskets, picture frames, wall pockets, lamp shades, etc. from paper. Braiding and weaving. (Geography and Nature Study) Same as first grade. (Writing) Regular lessons in dictation; simplest forms of letter writing, copy books introduced--writing with pencil. Haaren's New Writing Book, Nos. 1 and 2.

Third Grade: (Language) Oral work: training in proper conversational forms. Sentence building, conversation lessons on pictures and objects. Written work: copying of short stories and poems; Homonyms and simple abbreviations. Short friendly letters on experiences. The texts were: Spelling, oral and written; Sheppe's Primary in hands of pupils--Parts II and III. (Reading) Texts were Halliburton's Third Reader, Baldwin's Fifty Famous Stories Retold, "The Story of Ulysses", Stevenson's "Childs in Garden of Verses". (Literature) Poems memorized, Anderson's Fairy Tales, "Alice in Wonderland" and "Black Beauty" to be read to children. (Arithmetic) Work of previous grades reviewed, long division and long multiplication taught, measure of surfaces. Reading numbers through millions. Texts were Colaw, Duke and Powers Elementary Arithmetic. (Manual Training) Design weaving, more advanced work in paper construction, of a few simple forms from card-board. Plain sewing, Running and Back Stitching.

(History) The history of this grade consists of stories of the Lives of Children long ago, and the occupation of the homes when nearly all the things that were used were home made products. The change of conditions is presented in picturesque stories which appeal to the child's imagination and create an interest in the past. The teachers were to use Stone and Picket's "Days and Deeds of an Hundred Years" and Pratt's "Colonial Children".

(Geography and Nature Study) How the earth supplies our needs; size, shape, motions and conditions of the earth, temperature; object lessons and stories of other lands; lessons on islands, peninsulas, mountains, volcanoes, and the habits of animals around the children.

(Spelling) Beginning of forearm movements--Pen and Ink used, Haaren's New Writing Book, Nos. 2 and 3.

Fourth Grade: (Language) Formation of plurals. Special drills to correct common errors. Trouble-some verb forms. Easy grammar introduced. Written work: copying and dictation continued, original compositions on personal experiences, elementary principles of paragraphing. The books used were Perdue and Grisswold's Language in hands of pupils. Spelling and oral and written. Syllabication and accent. Attention to correct pronunciation and meaning of words. Sheppe's Primary Word Studies, Parts III & IV. Years With the Poets, "Aunt Martha's Corner Cupboard", "Jungle Book", "The Little Lame Princess", "Arabian Nights", and "A Queer Little Princess" to be read to the children.

(Arithmetic) Work of previous grades reviewed, Multiplication table, completed, short multiplication and division taught, fractions used with multiplication table.

(Manual Training) Sewed reed and raffia mats baskets, reed mats and baskets, card-board construction and measurement, Doll hammock, Plain Sewing, Running Back Stitching and Hew Stitching.

(History) By the time the children reach this grade they are demanding stories that are true. Here then we begin with a study of the lives of Lee and Jackson, and a study of the life, customs, religion, beliefs, and achievements of the Roman nation. The texts were "Famous Men of Rome", Williamson's Life of Lee and Jackson".

(Geography and Nature Study) Study of North and South America, modeling of continent on sand table, much exercise in map reading. The text was Fry's First Steps in Geography. More observations of the world around the children

and the study of this world.

(Writing) Continuing of third grade work, Haaren's New Writing Books Nos. 3 & 4.

Fifth Grade: (Language) Story reproductions and dictation, composition work and letter writing, with special attention to paragraphing and punctuation. Sentences according to meaning, subjects and predicate; formation of plurals; form and use of possessive case, drill on verbs.

(Reading) Texts were graded Classics, Fourth Reader, Hawthorne's "Great Stone Face", "Greek Stories".

(Literature)

(Arithmetic) Work of previous grades reviewed, common fractions, factoring, cancellation, greatest common divisor and least common multiple, as necessary to the fraction work. Some construction work done, introductory work in decimals, oral work daily. The text was Colaw, Duke and Power's Elementary Arithmetic.

(Manual Training) Card-board construction, Elementary Sloyd Knife Work.

(History) The text was Biography, "Chandler's Makers of Virginia History," Settlement of Virginia, Virginia's Part in the Revolution, and in the Civil War, Life of George Washington.

(Geography) Globe presented, circle, degree, equator, poles, meridian, latitude, longitude, seasons, day and night, United States, detailed study; Analytic study, including mathematical and physical geography of each continent; Some pictures of life in each country. The text was Frye's Elementary Geography.

(Writing) Movement exercises on paper and black board. Haaren's Copy Book, No. 4.

(Literature) "King of the Golden River" (to be read to the children), "The Village Blacksmith" (To be memorized, "The Children's Hour".

Sixth Grade: (Language) Oral and written work of fifth grade continued. Sentence and paragraph structure, special attention to choice of words. Analysis of simple sentences. Word and phrase modifiers. Nominative and objective cases, transitive and intransitive verbs. Personal pronouns. The text was Hyde's Grammar Book II.

(Reading) The text was Baker and Carpenter's Reader, "Robinson Crusoe", "Hiawatha", "Hip Van Winkle".

(Literature) "The Boy's King Arthur" (to be read to children), "Snowbound" and "Hiawatha" (to be studied), "To the Pandemonium" (to be memorized).

(Arithmetic) Work of previous grades reviewed, decimal fractions completed and easy work in percentage, and in interest, problems involving practical measurements; abundance of oral work. The text was Colaw, Duke and Power's Arithmetic.

(Manual Training) Advanced Sloyd Work--Mechanical drawing to scale; Simple knife work.

(History) Discovery and exploration; colonization in America; English in Virginia, Puritans, Raleigh, Oglethorpe; Spanish in Florida, Huguenots, Biographies of leaders. The text was Lee's History of the United States. Lives of James Otis and Nathaniel Bacon.

(Geography) Surface and underground water; study of the atmosphere; the world's great cities; Products--raw and manufactured; how different countries are governed; general review of work done in Fifth Grade, original outlines--study and preparation. Frye's Higher Geography.

(Writing) Good position of body and pen free movement. Haaren's Copy Book No. 5.

Seventh Grade: (Language) Short Narrative and descriptive themes; social and business letters, notes of invitation, acceptance, regret, and pupils trained to criticize and correct their own work. Compound and complex sentences. Phrases and clauses. Special study of nouns, pronouns, verbs, conjunctions, prepositions. The text was Hyde's Grammar, Book II.

(Reading) The books used were "Literary Masterpieces", "Evangeline", "Legend of Sleepy Hollow", "Washington's Farewell Address".

(Literature) "Little Women" and "Little Men" (to be read to children), "Life of Longfellow", "Evangeline", "Thanatopsis" (to be studied).

(Arithmetic) Work of previous grades reviewed; percentage with its applications; interest and business arithmetic; mensuration; review problems--weekly exercises. The text was Colaw, Duke and Power's Practical Arithmetic.

(Manual Training) Construction of models from drawings, Carving, Agriculture, Bench work. Text book--Duffan's "Principles of Agriculture", Original work.

(History) Revolutionary War, Early National History, Civil War, Growth of Government, War with Spain, Civil Government. The texts were "Lee's History of U. S." and McBain's "How We Are Governed in Virginia", and selections from "Life of Washington", "Life of Thomas Jefferson",

"Life of Benjamin Franklin", "Life of Abraham Lincoln",
"Life of Jefferson Davis".
(Geography) A detailed study of South America, Asia, Africa,
Australia, with special reference to the leading questions
of the day; Physical Geography; Original outline preparation
and study. The text was Frye's Higher Geography.
(Writing) Haaren's Copy Book No. 6.

VITA

Robert Bell Moore, the son of Mr. and Mrs. James C. Moore, was born in Suffolk, Virginia, on December 13 1930. He attended the Suffolk City Public Schools and he graduated from Suffolk High School in June, 1949.

He enrolled in Richmond College of the University of Richmond in September, 1949. Studying in this college for four years, he graduated in June, 1953, receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major concentration in Latin and minor concentrations in English, French, and education courses.

In September, 1953, he began teaching the seventh grade at Alexander Park Junior High School in Norfolk County, Virginia. From September, 1954, through June, 1956, he taught the seventh grade at Alexander Park Elementary School in Norfolk County. In September, 1956, he began teaching Latin and English at Churchland High School in Norfolk County, and he will teach Latin at Churchland High School during the school year 1957-58.

He worked on graduate studies at the University of Richmond during the summer sessions of 1954, 1955, and 1956.

He is a candidate for the Master of Science degree in Education on June 10, 1957.